IROQUOIS INDIANS:

A Documentary History

of the Diplomacy of the Six Nations

and Their League

Francis Jennings, Editor

William N. Fenton, Joint Editor

Mary A. Druke, Associate Editor

David R. Miller, Research Assistant

Introduction written
by Mary A. Druke

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INTRODUCTION

This compilation is like none other in the world. It is an archive of documents made by and concerning a people without scribes, documents recorded by other parties and originally filed away obscurely in repositories devoted to other interests. Because the League of the Iroquois and its constituent Six Nations negotiated diplomatically with the agents of empires, provinces, and nation-states, as well as with other Indian nations, Iroquois treaty documents came to rest in The Netherlands, France, Great Britain, Canada, and the United States, and in many state and private collections, in all of which the Iroquois documents were secondary to the thousand and one concerns of Europeans and Euro-Americans. Now these many scattered collections have been culled to create the first authentic archive of an indigenous tribal people.

Strictly speaking, an archive consists of the documents generated by an agency or institution, but we may think in terms of an imaginary Iroquois foreign office whose papers were destroyed in an imaginary fire, being preserved only in the copies made for other parties to negotiations. With that fiction in mind, what we have here is a reconstituted archive. Regardless of problems of definition, it is a body of texts exceedingly important to genuinely reconstituting the history of the United States and its predecessor colonies and native peoples.

The Iroquois League was a great military and political power in North America during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Its importance was recognized by contemporary statesmen of competing European empires and colonies, who vied with each other to secure Iroquois friendship and alliance. After 1700, the Iroquois policy of neutrality maintained a balance of power between the empires that lasted until the Seven Years War, and the Iroquois nations were wooed by Britain and the United States during the War of the American Revolution. It is not possible to write a valid political history of eastern North America during the era preceding

the Revolution without carefully considering Iroquois participation in the most important events of the time; and the basis of the Northwest Ordinances of 1784-87 was the treaty made at Fort Stanwix between the United States and the Iroquois in 1784.

Though the Iroquois League fragmented during the American Revolution and its people are now scattered on Canadian and American reservations, and individually as far as Hawaii, their history after the Revolution became inextricably part of the history of the Great Lakes region and of the vast intersocietal trade that moved westward across the continent. Defying dogmas of the vanishing Indian, more Iroquois are now alive than were previously recorded at any one time.

The major problem in studying Iroquois participation in North American history has been the scattered and unreliable condition of the source materials. A large number were virtually inaccessible. Most have never been validated by critical examination for omissions, variance between copies, or other contradiction by other contemporary documents. In national and state archives, Iroquois treaties are submerged in the general material, their arrangement and cataloging ill-suited to the study of indigenous peoples; and indexes are at best inadequate, often erroneous and misleading. There is continuing attrition of source manuscripts, identifiable by later references to documents that no longer can be found.

Now, however, most of the problems of access have been solved by the archive presented herein; and comparison of documents has been facilitated. The documents included were compiled by a project begun in September 1978 at the D'Arcy McNickle Center for the History of the American Indian at the Newberry Library. Funded for three years by the Research Division of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and staffed by a historian and three anthropologists with the assistance of many temporary aides, the project initially aimed at compiling less than 3,000 texts, but even the specialists had badly underestimated Iroquois diplomatic activity and

its involvements. The documents piled up to three times the original estimate, and the project's actual duration extended past its formal closing for three more years. It has been completed nevertheless, largely owing to the dedicated support of the Newberry Library and donation of labor by the staff. Many generous contributions by individuals and institutions are acknowledged below.

Project staff made no effort to collect original source documents. Instead, it copied them by microphotography or xerography and made paper copies of all documents to be filed in an archive at the Newberry. This publication reproduces that archive. It is open to addition as new documents come to light, and students are solicited to send information about such new documents to the Newberry. The archive's calendar is available on a computer printout at the Newberry, and a card index of names and subjects refers to about one-sixth of the documents on file. Access may be had by qualified students. An indexed document is noted as such by a degree sign after the date of the document on the headnote to the document and in the calendar. Regrettably the index could not be completed because of lack of funds, but it is useful in combination with the calendar. Both are printed in the guide that accompanies this film. A reader may wish to scan the calendar for context before concentrating on particular documents. Calendar and index, especially when used together, are finding aids for the location of particular documents and sets of related documents.

ABOUT THE TEXTS

What They Are

The documents presented here include the minutes of treaty conferences, the agreements resulting from formal meetings, and a broad range of background materials useful for interpreting motives, procedures, and effects. The editors' basic standard for selection was relevance to the diplomatic history of Iroquois nations or their league. Other parties involved in the negotiations are also included.

Most of the documents are manuscript or printed texts arranged in chronological order. Often it has been possible to compile copies of the same text from different sources, and sometimes these are variant, sometimes significantly so. All copies are included. Texts in languages other than English are presented but only rarely translated.

Photographs of wampum belts are also included as representing Indian records of negotiations. In almost all instances, it has not been possible to identify a particular belt with a specific written record, and the editors have concluded regretfully that the belts cannot be deciphered by a general code. Nevertheless certain conventional patterns have been observed, so the belts are grouped according to emblematic content, following the last written text at the end of the microfilm publication.

The documents span a period from the earliest surviving sixteenth century texts through the year 1842.

How They Were Copied

The editors depended on many archives and repositories for exact xerographic copies of original documents in their possession. Their valuable cooperation was unstinted, but the variety of their facilities for copying prevented the adoption of a uniform reduction ratio. Therefore, although the final microfilming at Research

Publications was done at a constant reduction ratio, there is no constant relation between the relative size of documents on our film and the actual dimensions of the originals.

The integrity of the documents was the editors' foremost concern. No document has been altered. Very few extractions were made and they are noted in every case. No marks were made by us on copies received except, in some cases, for bold editorial lines with arrows, to denote the beginning and end of a document. Such indications were also used to note overlapping when a large page had to be copied in sections.

The editors aimed at comprehensiveness. This objective required inclusion of some texts so mutilated or faint in the original as to be minimally legible. These are given nevertheless for whatever information can be extracted from them. Some are more legible in the technically enhanced copies than in the originals.

As in all publications, the originals remain the ultimate source to be consulted when issues of textual validity arise. The location of every document is given in a headnote.

How They Are Presented

Each entry consists of a headnote with the document's date, a brief description, and the source, followed by the document itself. In a few cases a translation or annotation will follow the document.

Each headnote description reflects the perspective of the document rather than editorial comment about it. As descriptions were often taken from catalogs or notations of source repositories, spelling of names is not standardized. Editorial remarks, if present, appear in parentheses or annotations.

Bracketed dates have been assigned by the editors. Single documents are given with the date when written regardless of the time referred to in their contents. This has been done because documents are products of the time and circumstances when written, and these may seriously affect interpretation of the contents. To

preserve textual integrity, some texts have been included as found in collections of documents spanning a period of time which is so dated: e.g., 1645-Sept 1654. Multiple copies of the same document, same date, are distinguished as Document I, Document II, etc., and filed in sequence under their common date.

If a document is dated more than one year from the date of the treaty to which it pertains, it is cross-referenced under the treaty date. Because of the prolonged nature of many treaty negotiations, users should scan the compilation's calendar to find appropriate documents within a year of any event of interest. Although cross-references refer to specific documents, distinguished by Roman numerals in cases in which there is more than one document of the same date, references to other documents in editorial remarks within descriptions of a particular document do not make use of Roman numerals to distinguish between documents of the same date. In these cases, all documents of the date cited should be checked for the reference.

The editors have not tried to reconcile or adjust dates in the Old Style Julian calendar used by the English for many years after the French and Dutch had changed over to the New Style Gregorian calendar. Dates are given herein as they appear on the documents. When the English finally changed over, they often gave both new and old dates on the same text; in such instances the editors opted for the New Style annotation.

The project staff has compiled and edited a printed reference manual to assist in interpreting the texts, and we urge that it be kept handy during research. It is <u>The History and Culture of Iroquois Diplomacy: An Interdisciplinary Guide to the Treaties of the Six Nations and Their League (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1984).</u> It is a volume for quick and easy reference, self-contained but especially useful in conjunction with this compilation of documents.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This archive could not have been compiled without the generous contributions of counsel and materials from many persons and agencies. No one is intentionally left out of the following list. Pardon is asked for any inadvertent omission.

Indian people: Early in the project, Richard Powless and Paul Williams of the Union of Ontario Indians provided a list of treaty documents. Seven persons from the Union of Ontario Indians visited the project from 23rd to 29th June 1979 and offered comments and suggestions. Phil Monture, Land Researcher at Six Nations Reserve shared knowledge of locations of source materials. George Abrams, Director of the Seneca Iroquois National Museum on the Allegany Seneca Reservation, and Ramona Charles, Librarian at the Community House on the Tonawanda Seneca Reservation, provided information about the location of materials. Tribal historians from different political persuasions on fellowship at the Center discussed the project with staff members during their residence: Norbert Hill and Sandra Orie came from the Oneida Reservation in Wisconsin, and Douglas George, recommended by the "traditional" Mohawk Nation, came from the St. Regis (Akwesasne) Reservation. Everett White, born and raised at St. Regis (Akwesasne), provided valuable information about documents based on his former experiences as an Indian Health Service employee and his personal interest in the history of his people. Most important information and advice were given on a visit by Cayuga Chief Jacob E. Thomas who represents the Cayuga nation in the Grand Council of the Houdenosaunee and teaches in Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario. On 22nd May 1980, Chief Thomas made a joint presentation with Dr. Michael K. Foster, Iroquoian Ethnologist of the Canadian National Museum of Man. At a colloquium at the Newberry, they showed slides and facsimile artifacts and explained symbols in terms of Iroquois custom. Through the following day, Chief Thomas held nonstop conversation with project staff who took extensive notes and taped his analyses of certain wampum belts. He continued

in correspondence afterward. Informal visitors to the project included Charles Patton and Tyler Hemlock, Caughnawaga (Kahnawake) Mohawks; and Alice Armstrong and Helen Laughing, Mohawks employed in the Demographic Office, Mohawk Tribal Offices, St. Regis Reservation.

When Associate Director Mary A. Druke traveled to Indian communities, she was received hospitably everywhere. Indians of Onondaga, including Oren Lyons, Irving Powless, Jr., and Irving Powless, Sr., though unsympathetic to the project, received her graciously and explained their attitudes. Information about documentary material and oral traditions were provided to her by residents of the following Indian communities: Allegany; Cattaraugus; Caughnawaga (Kahnawake), Onondaga, St. Regis (Akwesasne), Six Nations Reserve; Tonawanda; and Tuscarora.

Project Aides:

Consultants. Charles Gehring, of the New York State Library, Manuscripts, provided notes on Dutch manuscripts in the Livingston Family Papers at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library. Paul Stevens, a Fellow at the McNickle Center, compiled and annotated source documents of the era of the American Revolution. Another McNickle Center Fellow, Professor Richard Haan, contributed copies of odd documents he had been collecting for ten years. Mary Ann Mayes searched William N. Fenton's files and compiled a list of cited Iroquois documents. Lieutenant Commander C. McD. Stuart, RN, searched uncalendared treaty texts at the Public Record Office of Great Britain and arranged for transmission of copies. Paul Grey, graduate student at the University of London, acted as liaison between the project staff and the Public Record Office in acquiring documents ordered by the staff. Professional indexer Elin Christianson advised on indexing procedures. Major F.E.G. Bageshawe, of Matlock, England, provided photographs of a wampum belt in private hands.

Office employees at various times included Nancy Kovitz; Peter Radke; Polly Strong, University of Chicago graduate student; Andrew Tobin, Bennington College student; Karli Erica White. Wesley Andrews arranged much of the final organization

of the archive files. The project was also helped by several students enrolled in undergraduate independent study seminars of the Association of the Colleges of the Midwest and the Great Lakes Colleges Association, whose wages were paid by the associations and the Newberry. David L. Ghere accomplished "last minute" tasks.

Volunteers included Claudette Alm; Jeanette Campanella; Lucy Caples; Herbert Furse; Ted Knutson; Nancy Kovitz; Dorothy Markowitz; Virginia Meyers; Noel O'Reilly; Mary Louise Ramsey; Mrs. Gerald Sivage. They sorted and identified the masses of documents arriving in the mails, and put them in order for editors' review.

Newberry Library staff. Special interest was maintained and special help provided by John Aubrey, Michael Kaplan, Steve Mandel, Terry Sullivan, and Michelene Fixico; and much gratitude is owed for the patience of Richard H. Brown.

Advice and information were exchanged with colleagues of the Atlas of Great Lakes Indian History project: Helen Hornbeck Tanner, Adele Hast, and Jacqueline Peterson. The members of the Conference on Iroquois Research and the American Society for Ethnohistory devoted three successive panel sessions to the project at annual meetings.

Institutions:

Special gratitude is owed to the Public Archives of Canada for its gift of copies of treaties and surrenders in its possession. Thanks must also be expressed to the Rochester [N.Y.] Museum and Science Center for its donation of photographs of its large collection of wampum belts. The University of Chicago made copyflo paper copies of microfilm at a minimal cost far below commercial prices. Research Publications sent a photographer without charge to film documents located at the Albany Institute of History and Art and at the New York State Archives in Albany. Work on the project was greatly facilitated by materials collected in research travel previous to the project and incorporated into project files. The American Philosophical Society made such research fellowship grants to Director Jennings

and Associate Director Druke. Through such generous contributions, as well as time and energy given by individuals, the project managed to stay within its budget despite its massive increase in size. When the project could not be finished within its allotted three years, the Newberry Library financed it to completion.

Thanks are due to each repository, publication, or individual source of materials listed below which made available copies of materials in its collections. together they have made this publication possible.

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VII

NOUVELLE PRISE DE POSSESSION DE L'OHIO,

RÉPÉTÉE A SIX ENDROITS JUSQU'A LA RENCONTRE DU FLEUVE AVEC LA RIVIÈRE A LA ROCHE.

(1749)

Journal de la Campagne, que moy Céloron, chevalier de l'Ordre royal militaire de Saint-Louis, capitaine, commandant un détachement envoyé dans la Belle Rivière, ai faite par les ordres de M. le marquis de La Galissonière, commandant général de toute la Nouvelle-France et pays de la Louisiane.

Juin. — Je suis parti de la Chine, le 15 Juin, avec un détachement composé d'un capitaine, huit officiers subalternes, six cadets, un aumônier, vingt hommes de troupes, cent quatre-vingts Canadiens, et environ trente Sauvages, tant Iroquois qu'Abenakis. Je fus coucher à la Pointe Claire.

Le 16, je suis parti à dix heures du matin et j'ay été coucher à Soulanges avec tout mon détachement; plusieurs canots furent crevés dans les rapides.

Le 17, je suis parti de Soulanges, ai monté les Cèdres, le coteau du Lac. A cet endroit, *M. de Joncaire* fit naufrage, son canot fut cassé, un homme noyé et la majeure partie des effets perdus.

Le 18, je séjournai à l'entrée du lac Saint-François pour faire sécher le peu d'effets que l'on avoit ramassés au bas du rapide.

Le 19, je passai le lac Saint-François et montai les rapides nommés les Mille Roches et le Moulinet sans aucun accident.

Le 20, je montai le Long Sault.

Le 21, je passai plusieurs rapides, je n'en ferai pas le dénombrement; ils sont connus de tout le monde.

Les 22, 23 et 24, je continuai ma route sans qu'il m'arrivât rien de remarquable, à la réserve de plusieurs canots qui furent cassés par la mauvaise volonté de ceux qui les conduisoient. Je les fis raccommoder et continuai ma route.

Le 25, je passai à un nouvel établissement françois, que fait M. l'abbé Piquet, où je trouvai environ quarante arpents de terre défrichée. Son fort de pieux de huit pieds de haut n'étoit pas encore avancé; l'abbé Piquet étoit logé sous des écorces, à la façon des Sauvages, et faisoit préparer du bois et autres matériaux pour se loger. Il avoit deux Sauvages Nontaguès qu'il me pria d'emmener avec moi. Je les acceptai pour lui faire plaisir; c'étoit tout ce qui composoit sa mission.

Le 26, je suis parti de chez M. Piquet et suis venu coucher au Petit Détroit.

Le 27, je suis parti de grand matin pour me rendre au fort Frontenac, où je suis arrivé sur les cinq heures du soir.

Les 28 et 29, je séjournay au fort Frontenac pour faire rétablir mes canots, qui avoient été extrêmement endommagés dans les rapides et reposer mon monde.

Le 30, je suis parti du fort Frontenac pour me rendre à Niagara. A Quinté je rencontrai M. de La Naudière qui recevoit des Miamis. Il me dit que les nations du Détroit, ayant sceu ma marche, étoient prêtes, à la première invitation, à venir me joindre. Je ne donnai pas beaucoup dans les dis-

positions de ces Sauvages ; cependant, comme j'avois appris, dans ma route, qu'il y avoit plus de monde dans la Belle Rivière que l'on n'avoit dit à M. de La Galissonière, je profitai à tout hazard de l'avis de M. de La Naudière et forçai ma marche pour rejoindre M. de Sabrevois, qui alloit commandant au Détroit.

Juillet. — J'arrivai à Niagara le 6 Juillet, où je le trouvai. Nous conférâmes ensemble, et j'écrivis à M. le chevalier de Longueil ce que j'avois appris de M. de La Naudière, et le priai que, si ces nations du Détroit étoient dans le dessein de venir me joindre, de ne pas différer à les faire partir, que je donnois le rendez-vous à Stioto du 9 au 12 d'Aoust ; que, s'ils avoient changé de sentiment, je lui serois obligé de m'envoyer des courriers pour m'informer de leurs desseins afin de sçavoir à quoy m'en tenir.

Le 7, je fis partir M. de Contrecœur, capitaine en second du detachement, avec MM. les officiers subalternes et tous mes canots pour aller faire faire le portage. Je restai au fort pour attendre mes Sauvages, qui avoient pris dans le lac Ontario une autre route que moy ; m'ayant rejoint, je me rendis au portage que M. de Contrecœur avoit fait faire.

Le 14 du même mois, je suis entré dans le lac Érié. Un gros vent du large me fit camper à quelques lieues au-dessus du petit rapide. Là, je fis former des escouades pour monter la garde, qui fut de quarante hommes, commandée par un officier.

Le 15, je suis parti, de grand matin, dans l'espérance de faire une belle journée et me rendre au portage de Chatakoin, ce que je ne pus faire, s'étant élevé un gros vent de même que la veille. J'ay été forcé de mettre à terre, le lac

étant extrêmement plat; il n'y a point d'abri. Si l'on ne prévient le vent, on court le risque de périr en débarquant. A plus de vingt arpens dans le large, on trouve des pierres extrêmement grosses, sur lesquelles on est en danger de périr. Je tombai sur une, et, sans un prompt secours, j'étois noyé avec tout mon monde. Je mis à terre pour raccommoder mon canot, qui avoit été crevé en plusieurs endroits.

Le 16, je suis arrivé à midi au portage de Chatakoin. Sitôt que tous mes canots furent chargés, je détachai M. de Villiers et Le Borgne, avec cinquante hommes, pour aller nettoyer les chemins; le reste du jour, j'observai la situation de l'endroit, au cas que l'on voulût, à l'avenir, y faire un établissement. Je n'y ai rien trouvé d'avantageux, tant par la navigation du Lac que par la situation de l'endroit : ce lac est si plat, dans le côté du Sud, que les barques ne pourroient approcher du portage qu'à plus d'une lieue. Dans le large, aucune isle ou havre où elles puissent mouiller et se mettre à l'abri. Il faudroit qu'elles se tinssent sur leurs ancres et avoir des bateaux pour les décharger; les coups de vent y sont fréquents, et je pense qu'elles seroient en danger. D'ailleurs, il n'y a aucun village sauvage établi dans cet endroit. Ils sont même très éloignés; les plus près sont ceux de Ganaouagan et de la Paille coupée. Le soir, MM. de Villiers et Le Borgne sont venus coucher au camp et avoient fait nettoyer environ trois quarts de lieue de chemin. L'on plaça le corps de garde, et cet ordre continua toute la campagne, tant pour la sûreté de mon détachement que pour former les Canadiens à la discipline dont ils ont besoin.

Le 17, à la pointe du jour, nous commençâmes notre portage, qui fut mené très vigoureusement, puisque tous les

canots, vivres et munitions de guerre et marchandises, destinés aux présens des nations de la Belle Rivière, furent portés les trois quarts de lieue qui avoient été nettoyés la veille. Ce chemin est très difficile par la quantité de côtes et montagnes qui s'y rencontrent ; aussy tous mes gens étoient très fatigués.

Le 18, je continuai mon portage, mais le mauvais temps m'empêcha de pousser aussy loin que le jour précédent. Je me consolai de ce retardement, n'étant arrêté que par la pluye: C'étoit tout ce que je souhaitois, afin d'avoir de l'eau dans la rivière pour passer avec les charges que j'avois dans mon canot.

Le 19, la pluye s'étant apaisée, je me mis en route et fis, ce jour, une demi lieue.

Le 20 et le 21, nous continuâmes notre route avec une extrême diligence.

Le 22, nous avons achevé le portage, que l'on peut compter de 4 lieues, et nous arrivâmes sur le bord du lac de Chatakoin ; je fis en cet endroit raccommoder mes canots et reposer mes gens.

Le 23, à midy, je partis et suis venu camper à une lieue de la sortie du lac, qui peut avoir 9 lieues. La veille, nos Sauvages, qui avoient été à la pêche dans le lac, me dirent qu'ils avoient vu du monde, qui s'étoit caché dans les bois sitôt qu'il les avoit aperçus.

Le 24, je sortis du lac le matin d'assez bonne heure et nous entrâmes dans la rivière de Chatakoin. Les eaux s'étant trouvées basses, je fis transporter la majeure partie des bagages par terre. Le portage me fut indiqué par le sieur de La Saussaye; il a environ trois quarts de lieue. Ce transport

facilita le portage de nos canots, qui n'auroient pu passer avec les charges. Nous avons fait, au plus, dans ce jour, par eau, une demi lieue.

Le 25, avant de nous mettre en marche, à la représentation des Sauvages de mon détachement, j'assemblai un conseil, composé de MM. les officiers et des nations que j'avois avec moy, pour délibérer ensemble sur les mesures que nous avions à prendre à l'occasion des vestiges que nous avions trouvés, la veille, de plusieurs cabanes abandonnées avec tant de précipitation, qu'ils avoient laissé une partie de leurs ustensiles, leurs canots et même leurs vivres, pour gagner les bois. Cette manœuvre nous fit juger de la frayeur de ces Sauvages et qu'ils ne s'étoient retirés que par peur, et conséquemment ils porteroient l'alarme dans tous les villages, les mettroient en fuite, ou leur feroient prendre le parti de se rassembler, former un corps considérable et nous dresser des embuscades. Le pays leur étoit extrêmement avantageux pour cela, et pour nous estoit d'un très difficile accès par le peu d'eau qu'il y avoit dans la rivière. Je donnai communication des intentions de M. le marquis de La Galissonière aux officiers. Ils virent qu'il étoit d'une très grande importance, pour l'exécution des ordres dont j'étois chargé, de rassurer les nations de ces contrées, et le sentiment unanime fut qu'on les enverroit avertir de se tenir tranquilles sur leurs nattes, et les assurer que je ne venois que pour traiter avec eux de bonnes affaires et leur expliquer les sentiments de leur père Onontio. Je fis dresser, par écrit, leurs opinions, qu'ils signèrent tous. En voicy la copie.

Conseil tenu par M. de Céloron avec MM. les officiers de son détachement et les chefs, le 25 Juillet 1749.

Ayant découvert hier, 24 Juillet, au bas du lac de Chatakoin, des vestiges par lesquels il nous a paru que les Sauvages, qui étoient en chasse dans cet endroit, auroient été effrayés du nombre de canots et du monde qui composoient notre détachement, ayant abandonné leurs canots, vivres et autres ustensiles à leur usage et qu'ils étoient allés porter l'alarme au village de la Paille coupée, et comme il est important, en conséquence des ordres de M. le marquis de La Galissonière, de parler à ces nations pour leur faire connoître ses intentions, et ne voulant rien faire sans prendre l'avis de MM. les officiers et des chefs que nous avons avec nous, nous les avons assemblés pour leur faire part des ordres dont nous sommes chargés, afin de prendre ensemble les mesures les plus convenables pour dissiper la terreur que notre marche a répandue.

Les avis de tous ayant été recueillis, le sentiment unanime a été que pour rassurer ces nations et avoir occasion de leur parler, il seroit détaché un canot pour aller au village de la Paille coupée, dans lequel embarqueroit M. de Joncaire, lieutenant, avec des Abenakis et trois Iroquois pour leur porter trois branches de porcelaine et les inviter à se rassurer, que leur père ne venoit que pour traiter avec eux des bonnes affaires.

Fait à notre camp, à l'entrée de la rivière de Chatakoin, ce 25 Juillet 1749.

Tous les officiers ont signé.

Sitôt que le Conseil fut fini, je fis partir M. de Joncaire. Cela fait, je me mis en route et fis environ une lieue avec beaucoup de peine. A bien des endroits, j'étois obligé de mettre quarante hommes sur chaque canot pour les faire passer.

Les 26, 27 et 28, je continuai ma route, non sans bien des obstacles, et, malgré toutes les précautions que je prenois pour ménager mes voitures, elles étoient souvent en mauvais état par le peu d'eau qu'il y avoit.

Le 29, j'entrai, à midi, dans la Belle Rivière; je fis enterrer une plaque de plomb, sur laquelle est gravée la prise de possession que je faisois, au nom du Roy, de cette rivière et de toutes celles qui y tombent. Je fis aussy attacher à un arbre les armes du Roy, frappées sur une feuille de fer-blanc, et du tout je dressai un procès-verbal, que MM. les officiers et moy avons signé.

Copie du procès-verbal de la position de la plaque de plomb et des armes du Roy posées à l'entrée de la Belle Rivière avec l'inscription.

L'an mil sept cent quarante neuf, nous Céloron, chevalier de l'Ordre royal et militaire de Saint-Louis, capitaine, commandant un détachement, envoyé par les ordres de M. le marquis de La Galissonière, commandant général du Canada, dans la Belle Rivière, autrement dite l'Ohio, accompagné des principaux officiers de notre détachement, avons enterré au pied d'un chêne rouge, sur la rive méridionale de la *rivière Oyo et de Chanaouagon*, et par 42° 5' 23", une plaque de plomb avec l'inscription cy-dessus gravée.

INSCRIPTION

L'an 1749, du règne de Louis XV, Roy de France, nous Céloron, commandant du détachement envoyé par M. le Marquis de La Galissonière, commandant général de la Nouvelle-France, pour rétablir la tranquillité dans quelques villages de ces cantons, avons enterré cette plaque au confluent de l'Ohio et de Kanaouagon, le 29 Juillet, pour monument du renouvellement de possession, que nous avons pris, de ladite rivière Ohio et de toutes celles qui y tombent et de toutes les terres des deux côtés jusqu'à la source des dites rivières, ainsi qu'en ont joui ou dû jouir les précédents Roys de France, et qu'ils s'y sont maintenus par les armes et par les traités, et spécialement par ceux de Riswick, d'Utrecht et d'Aix-là-Chapelle; avons, de plus, affiché dans le même lieu à un arbre, les armes du Roy.

En foy de quoy, avons dressé et signé le présent procès verbal, fait à l'entrée de la Belle Rivière, le 29 Juillet 1749.

Tous les officiers ont signé.

Cette opération faite, comme je n'étois pas éloigné du village de Kanaouagon et que les Sauvages étoient prévenus par M. de Joncaire de mon arrivée, ils étoient aux aguets pour me découvrir. Sitost qu'ils eurent découvert mes canots, ils m'envoyèrent une députation pour m'inviter à me rendre à leurs villages et y recevoir les compliments de leurs chefs. Je traitai bien ces envoyés; je leur fis boire un coup de lait de leur père Onontio et leur donnai du tabac; ils retournèrent à leurs villages. Je m'y rendis peu de temps après, je passai devant le village, ils me saluèrent de plusieurs décharges de mousqueterie. Je les leur rendis et fus placer mon camp de l'autre côté de la rivière. M. de Joncaire amena les chefs à ma tente, je reçus leurs compliments de félicitation, et, comme ce village est de douze à treize cabanes, je les invitai à se rendre à la Paille Coupée pour entendre ce que j'avois à leur dire de la part de leur père Onontio. Les femmes m'apportèrent un présent de blé d'Inde et de citrouilles, au-

quel je répondis par d'autres petits présents. M. de Joncaire m'assura qu'il étoit temps qu'il arrivât pour dissiper la terreur qui s'étoit emparée de l'esprit des Sauvages, que plusieurs s'étoient retirés dans les bois et que les autres avoient fait leurs paquets pour en faire de même. Je fis partir M. de Joncaire pour la Paille Coupée.

Le 30, je me rendis à la Paille Coupée, où j'avois envoyé la veille M. de Joncaire. Les Sauvages de cet endroit avoient pris le dessein de se sauver dans les bois, sur le rapport que leur avoient fait ceux qui nous avoient découverts dans le lac de Chatakoin, qui leur avoient dit que nous étions un gros considérable, et que sans doute c'étoit pour les détruire. M. de Joncaire eut beaucoup de peine à leur ôter cette impression, quoique ce fussent des Iroquois des Cinq Nations qui composoient ces deux villages, et qu'il soit enfant adopté de la nation, et qu'ils ayent beaucoup de confiance en luy. Sitôt que je fus campé, les chefs s'assemblèrent et vinrent à ma tente. Voicy leurs premières paroles.

Paroles des Sonontouans établis au village de la Paille Coupée, autrement nommé Kachiriodagon et de Kanaouagon, à M. de Céloron par deux branches de porcelaine, le 30 *Juillet* 1749.

« Mon Père, nous venons te témoigner la joye que nous avons de te voir arriver dans nos villages en bonne santé. Il y a longtemps que nous n'avions eu le plaisir de voir notre père dans ces terres, et ta marche, que nous avons apprise il y a un mois, a causé beaucoup d'inquiétude et de frayeur, non seulement dans nos villages, mais dans tous ceux de la

Belle Rivière. Tu t'en es aperçu, mon Père, et pour rassurer tes enfans intimidés et sans esprit, tu as bien voulu nous envoyer notre fils, Joncaire, pour nous dire d'être tranquilles et d'attendre dans nos villages ton arrivée, pour entendre la parole de notre Père Onontio, que tu nous apportes. Les branches de porcelaine nous ont entièrement remis l'esprit de toutes les frayeurs qui s'étoient emparées de nous; nos paquets étoient faits pour fuir, et nous étions comme des gens ivres; tout a disparu, et nous sommes restés, comme tu l'as souhaité, pour écouter ce que tu as à nous dire. Nous sommes charmés que notre Père Onontio t'ait choisi pour nous faire savoir ses intentions. Ce n'est pas d'aujourd'huy que nous te connoissons; tu nous as gouvernés à Niagara, et tu sais que nous n'avons fait que ta volonté. »

Réponses de M. de Céloron aux paroles cy-dessus par trois branches de porcelaine, le 30 *Juillet* 1749.

« Je suis charmé, mes enfants, que l'arrivée de M. de Joncaire dans vos villages vous ait remis l'esprit et dissipé la frayeur que ma marche dans ce pays vous avoit causée. Sans doute qu'elle est occasionnée par les mauvaises manœuvres de gens qui travaillent toujours aux mauvaises affaires; ce que je trouve de surprenant, c'est que ceux qui ont l'esprit droit et qui ont toujours écouté la parole de leur père Onontio ayent donné dans cette crainte.

« Par ces trois branches de porcelaine, je débouche vos oreilles afin que vous entendiez bien ce que j'ay à vous dire de la part de votre père Onontio, et je vous ouvre aussy les yeux pour vous faire voir clairement les avantages que votre

Père veut vous procurer, si en gens d'esprit vous voulez en profiter. C'est sa parole que je vous apporte icy et que je vais porter dans tous les villages de la Belle Rivière. »

Paroles de M. le marquis de La Galissonière au premier village des Iroquois Sonontouans, établis à l'entrée de la Belle Rivière, portées par M. de Céloron.

Par un Collier.

« Mes enfans, depuis que j'ay la guerre avec les Anglois, j'ay appris que cette nation vous a séduits, et que, non contens de vous gâter le cœur, ils avoient profité du temps de mon absence dans ce pays pour envahir des terres qui ne leur appartiennent pas et qui sont à moy. Ce qui m'a déterminé à vous envoyer M. de Céloron pour vous dire mes intentions, qui sont que je ne veux pas souffrir l'Anglois sur mes terres, et je vous invite, si vous êtes mes véritables enfans, à ne les plus recevoir dans vos villages. J'interromps donc par ce collier le commerce qu'ils ont établi depuis peu dans cette partie de terre, et vous annonce que je ne les souffrirai pas davantage. Si vous m'êtes attachés, vous les ferez retirer et les renvoyerez chez eux. Au moyen de cela, vous serez toujours paisibles dans vos villages. Je vous y donneray tous les secours que vous devez attendre d'un bon père. Venez me voir le printemps prochain, vous aurez lieu d'être satisfaits de la réception que je vous ferai. Je vous fournirai des traiteurs abondamment, si vous en voulez; j'y mettrai même des officiers, si cela vous fait plaisir, pour vous conduire et vous donner le bon esprit, afin de ne travailler qu'aux bonnes affaires. L'Anglois a d'autant plus tort de

venir dans ces terres que les Cinq Nations luy ont dit de se tenir au delà des montagnes. Faites une sérieuse attention, mes enfans, à la parole que je vous envoye. Ecoutez-la bien, suivez-la. C'est le moyen de voir toujours dans vos villages un ciel beau et serein. J'attends de vous une réponse digne de mes véritables enfans. Vous verrez des marques respectables, que j'attacherai le long de la Belle Rivière, qui prouveront aux Anglois que cette terre m'appartient et qu'ils n'y peuvent venir sans s'exposer à s'en faire chasser. Je veux bien, pour cette fois, les traiter avec bonté et les avertir; s'ils sont sages, ils profiteront de mon avis.

Par deux branches de porcelaine.

« Je suis surpris, mes enfans, de voir s'élever dans votre village une cabane destinée à recevoir des traiteurs anglois. Si vous vous regardez comme mes enfans, vous ne continuerez pas cet ouvrage ; loin de cela, vous la déferez et vous ne recevrez jamais d'Anglois chez vous. »

Réponse des Iroquois des villages de Ganaouskon et de Chinadiagon, le 31 Juillet 1749.

Par deux branches de porcelaine.

« Mon père, nous vous remercions de nous avoir ouvert les oreilles et les yeux pour entendre votre parole, et voir clairement que vous nous parlez comme un bon père. »

Par un collier.

« Mon père, nous sommes bien aises de parler aujourd'hui d'affaires avec vous. Ne soyez pas surpris de nos réponses,

nous sommes gens qui n'ont aucune connoissance des affaires, mais qui vous parlent du fond du cœur. Mon père, vous nous avez paru surpris de ce que l'Anglois venoit en commerce sur nos terres. Les anciens en ont défendu l'entrée, cela est vray; vous nous engagez à descendre à Montréal, l'année prochaine, afin de parler d'affaires avec Onontio et nous ressentir de ses grâces; nous vous assurons que nous allons travailler à cette affaire pendant l'hiver, et que nous irons ce printemps.

« Mon père, vous nous avez dit que vous vous aperceviez que l'Anglois venoit envahir nos terres et que vous veniez les sommer de se retirer, que pour cet effet vous leur barriez le chemin ; nous vous remercions de votre entreprise et vous promettons de n'en plus souffrir icy. Nous ne sommes pas partie capable pour décider entièrement du sentiment général des Cinq Nations qui habitent cette rivière, nous attendons la décision des chefs de nos villages, comme celles des villages qui sont plus bas. Pour nous, mon père, nous vous assurons de ne point recevoir l'Anglois dans nos villages. »

Par deux branches de porcelaine.

« Mon père, vous nous avez dit que de petits oiseaux vous avoient averti qu'on bâtissoit icy une maison pour les Anglois, et que, si nous les souffrions, dans peu ils feroient un établissement assez considérable pour nous en chasser, parce qu'ils se rendroient maîtres de nos terres. Vous nous avez invités à ne pas continuer cet ouvrage; c'est ce que nous vous promettons, et cette maison, qui est presque faite, ne servira qu'à divertir la jeunesse. Nous vous promettons aussy de ne

point toucher aux armes du Roy, que vous planterez dans cette rivière, ce qui prouvera aux Anglois qu'ils n'ont aucun droit dans cette partie de terre. »

Par deux branches de porcelaine aux Sauvages du détachement.

« Mes frères, nous sommes charmés de vous voir accompagner notre père dans sa route. Vous nous avez dit que vous n'aviez d'autres sentiments que ceux d'Onontio; nous vous invitons à suivre les conseils qu'il veut bien nous donner, et nous sommes dans la résolution de ne faire que ses volontés.

« Nous vous remercions de ce que vous venez de nous dire, nous y ferons attention. »

Le conseil fini, je fis des présents à ces Sauvages, qui leur firent grand plaisir, et, en reconnoissance, ils m'assurèrent derechef qu'ils ne recevroient jamais d'Anglois chez eux et qu'ils descendroient le printemps prochain pour voir leur père Onontio.

Le 31 Juillet, je séjournai à ce village, ayant été arrêté par une abondance de pluye qui nous fit grand plaisir ; les eaux montèrent dans la nuit de trois pieds.

Aoust. — Le 1er Aoust, je suis parti de la Paille Coupée. Après avoir marché environ quatre lieues, je trouvai un village de Loups et de Renards de dix cabanes. Je débarquai et ne trouvai qu'un homme qui me dit que le reste avoit pris la fuite. Je dis à ce Sauvage que ses gens avoient tort de s'effrayer, que je ne venois point pour leur faire du mal ; loin

de cela, que je venois pour traiter avec eux de bonnes affaires et donner de l'esprit aux enfants du Gouverneur, qui en avoient manqué. J'ajoutai que je ne doutois pas que, sitôt que je serois passé, ils ne revinssent chez eux; que je les invitois à se rendre au village plus bas, qui n'étoit pas éloigné plus de 4 à 5 lieues, et que je leur parlerois. Je passai ce même jour à un petit village Loup de six cabanes, auxquels je dis, comme aux autres, de se rendre au village le plus considérable, où je leur parlerois de la part de leur père Onontio; ils y arrivèrent peu de temps après moy.

Le 2, je parlai à ces Sauvages au nom de M. le Général. Voicy les paroles et leurs réponses.

Par un collier.

« Mes enfans les Loups, la raison qui a déterminé votre père Onontio à m'envoyer dans cette partie de terre a été la connoissance, qu'il a eue, que les Anglois se proposoient d'y former un établissement assez considérable pour envahir un jour ces terres et s'y multiplier de façon, si on les laissoit faire, qu'ils s'en rendroient maîtres et vous en seriez les victimes, comme vous l'avez déjà été par le passé. Ecoutez avec attention la parole que je vous apporte de sa part.

« L'expérience que vous avez faite, mes enfans, des mauvais procédés des Anglois pour vous doit vous être présente. Ressouvenez-vous que vous possédiez autrefois, à Philadelphie, des terres magnifiques et sur lesquelles vous trouviez abondamment de quoi faire subsister vos familles. Ils se sont approchés de vous, sous prétexte de vous donner vos besoins, et petit à petit, sans que vous vous en soyez aperçus,

ils ont établi des forts et ensuite des villes, et, quand ils ont été assez puissants, ils vous ont chassés et vous ont forcés de venir vous établir sur ces terres-cy, pour faire subsister vos femmes et vos enfans. Ce qu'ils ont fait à Philadelphie, ils peuvent le faire aujourd'hui sur la Belle Rivière, pour les établissements qu'ils veulent y former. C'est la connoissance que j'en ai, pensant plus loin que vous, qui m'a déterminé à vous envoyer M. de Céloron pour vous faire ouvrir les yeux sur les malheurs qui vous menacent et vous faire voir que ce n'est que l'intérêt seul qui fait agir l'Anglois. Je les envoie sommer pour cette fois de se retirer, ne voulant pas qu'ils occupent des terres qui m'appartiennent. S'ils ont de l'esprit, ils ne s'exposeront pas à y être forcés. L'Anglois a d'autant moins de droit de venir dans cette terre que les Roys de France et d'Angleterre sont convenus, dans tous les traités de paix, et particulièrement dans le dernier, qui a terminé la guerre, que les Anglois ne mettroient jamais le pied dans ces terres. Vous sçavez aussi, mes enfans, que les Cinq Nations leur ont défendu absolument, non seulement de faire aucun établissement sur la Belle Rivière, mais même d'y venir en commerce. Qu'ils se mettent de l'autre côté des montagnes, sur les terres qu'ils vous ont usurpées, je ne m'y oppose pas; mais sur les miennes, je ne les y souffrirai pas. Pour vous, mes enfans, vous n'y perdrez rien. Loin de cela, je vous donnerai tous les secours que vous devez attendre d'un bon père.

« Députez, le printemps prochain, quelqu'un de votre nation avec vos oncles pour venir me voir, et vous verrez, par la réception que je vous ferai, combien je vous aime et que je ne cherche qu'à vous faire du bien et à vous soustraire au joug

que l'Anglois veut encore vous imposer. Je vous donnerai des traiteurs qui vous fourniront tous vos besoins et vous mettrai en état de ne point regretter ceux que j'éloigne de mes terres; celles que vous possédez, vous en serez toujours maîtres.

« Je vous donnerai même des officiers pour vous y maintenir paisiblement et tranquillement, sans que personne puisse vous inquiéter, ne cherchant, comme un bon père, que ce qui peut vous être avantageux. »

Réponse des Loups le 2 Aoust par un collier.

« Mon Père, nous vous prions d'avoir pitié de nous; nous sommes des jeunes gens qui ne peuvent vous répondre comme feroient des vieillards. Ce que vous nous avez dit nous a ouvert les yeux et donné de l'esprit; nous voyons que vous ne travaillez qu'aux bonnes affaires. Nous vous promettons de n'avoir d'autres sentiments que ceux de nos oncles les Cinq Nations, dont vous paroissez content.

« Examinez, mon Père, la situation dans laquelle nous sommes. Si vous faites retirer les Anglois, qui nous donnent nos besoins, et particulièrement le forgeron qui raccommode nos fusils et nos haches, nous allons rester sans secours et exposés à mourir de faim et de misère dans la Belle Rivière. Aie pitié de nous, mon Père, tu ne peux nous donner pour le présent nos besoins; laisse-nous au moins pour cet hiver ou du moins jusqu'à ce que nous allions en chasse, le forgeron et quelqu'un qui puisse nous aider; nous te promettons qu'au printemps les Anglois se retireront. »

Je leur dis, sans leur rien promettre, que je prendrai l'ar

rangement qui convient le plus à leurs intérêts et aux intentions de leur père Onontio. J'avouerai que cette représentation m'embarrassa très fort. Je leur fis un petit présent et les engageai à me tenir la parole qu'ils me donnoient.

Le 3, je me mis en marche. En chemin je trouvai un village de dix cabanes abandonnées. Les Sauvages, ayant eu avis de mon arrivée, avoient gagné le bois. Je continuai ma route jusqu'au village de la Rivière aux Bœufs, qui n'est que de neuf à dix cabanes. Sitôt qu'ils m'aperçurent, ils saluèrent. Je leur fis rendre le salut et débarquai. Sur ce qu'on m'avoit dit qu'il y avoit dans cet endroit un forgeron et un négociant anglois, je voulois leur parler; mais les Anglois, comme les Sauvages, avoient gagné les bois. Il n'étoit resté que cinq ou six Iroquois, qui se présentèrent les armes à la main. Je les grondai sur leur façon de se montrer, leur fis mettre les armes bas. Ils me firent bien des excuses et me dirent qu'ils n'étoient venus avec leurs fusils que parce qu'ils les avoient pour me saluer. Je leur parlai à peu près comme je venois de faire aux Loups, et rembarquai sur-le-champ. Le soir je fis enterrer une plaque de plomb et attacher les armes du Roy à un arbre et en dressai le procès-verbal suivant :

Procès-verbal.

« L'an 1749, nous Céloron, chevalier de l'ordre royal et militaire de Saint-Louis, capitaine, commandant le détachement envoyé par les ordres de M. le Marquis de La Galissonière, commandant général du Canada dans la Belle Rivière, autrement dite l'Ohio, accompagné des principaux officiers de notre détachement, avons enterré sur la rive méridionale de l'Ohio, à 4 lieues au-dessous de la Rivière aux Bœufs, vis-à-

vis d'une montagne pelée et auprès d'une grosse pierre sur laquelle on voit plusieurs figures assez grossièrement gravées, une plaque de plomb, et attaché dans le même lieu, à un arbre, les armes du Roy. En foy de quoy nous avons signé le présent procès-verbal, fait à notre camp le 3 Aoust 1749.

« Tous les officiers ont signé. »

L'inscription est la même que la précédente, que j'ay placée à l'entrée de la Belle Rivière.

Le 4 au matin, après avoir conféré avec MM. les officiers et les chefs sauvages de mon détachement sur les précautions que nous avions à prendre pour rassurer les nations de la Belle Rivière et les engager à ne pas fuir, afin de pouvoir leur parler de la part de M. le Général, il fut conclu que M. de Joncaire, avec les chefs, iroit au village d'Attigné pour y annoncer mon arrivée et engager les nations de cet endroit à m'attendre sans effroi, puisque je ne venois que pour parler de bonnes affaires. Sitôt qu'il fut parti, je me mis en route. Nous fîmes environ 15 lieues ce jour-là.

Le 5, je partis d'assez bonne heure. Après avoir fait 3 à 4 lieues, je trouvai une rivière dont l'embouchure est très belle, et, à une lieue plus bas, j'en trouvai une autre. Elles sont toutes deux au Sud de la Belle Rivière. Dans le haut, il y a des villages Loups et Iroquois des Cinq Nations. Je campai de bonne heure pour donner le temps à M. de Joncaire d'arriver au village d'Attigné.

Le 6, je suis parti sur les sept heures. Après avoir fait environ 5 lieues, j'arrivai au village d'Attigné, où je trouvai M. de Joncaire avec nos Sauvages. Ceux de l'endroit avoient pris la fuite. Ce village est de vingt-deux cabanes. M. de Jon-

caire me dit qu'un chef, avec deux jeunes gens qui étoient restés à la découverte, le voyant peu accompagné, étoient venus à luy et luy avoient demandé le motif de son voyage. A quoy il répondit que je ne venois que pour parler aux nations de la Belle Rivière et donner de l'esprit aux enfants du gouverneur qui l'habitent. Il engagea ce chef à se charger des branches de porcelaine que je lui avois données pour les porter dans les villages plus bas et leur dire de se tenir tranquilles sur leurs nattes; que je ne venois que pour traiter d'affaires avec eux, qui leur seroient avantageuses.

Je rembarquay et je passai le même jour à l'ancien village des Chaouanons, qui est abandonné depuis le départ du nommé Chartier et sa bande, qui fut levé de cet endroit par les ordres de M. le Marquis de Beauharnois et conduit à la Rivière au Vermillon dans Ouabache, en 1745. Je rencontrai, à cet endroit, six engagés Anglois avec cinquante chevaux et environ cent cinquante paquets de pelleteries, qui s'en retournoient à Philadelphie. Je les sommai par écrit de se retirer dans leur pays, que les terres où ils venoient en commerce appartenoient au Roy, et non au Roy d'Angleterre; que s'ils y revenoient davantage ils seroient pillés; que je voulois bien pour cette fois les traiter avec humanité, qu'ils profitassent de l'avis que je leur donnois. Ils m'assurèrent, soit par peur ou autrement, de n'y plus revenir; ils convinrent qu'ils n'avoient aucun droit de commerce. Ce que j'ai bien expliqué dans la sommation. J'écrivis au Gouverneur de Philadelphie dans ces termes :

« Monsieur,

« Ayant été envoyé, avec un détachement, dans ces quar-

tiers, par les ordres de M. le Marquis de La Galissonière, commandant général dans la Nouvelle France, pour réconcilier entre elles quelques nations sauvages, qui s'étoient brouillées à l'occasion de la guerre qui vient de finir, j'ay été très surpris de trouver des négociants de votre Gouvernement dans ce pays, sur lequel l'Angleterre n'a jamais eu aucune prétention. Je les ay traités avec toute la douceur possible, quoique je fusse en droit de les regarder comme des interlopes et des gens sans aveu, leurs entreprises étant contraires aux préliminaires de la paix signée depuis plus de quinze mois.

« J'espère, Monsieur, que vous voudrez bien, à l'avenir, défendre ce commerce, qui est contre les traités, et faire avertir vos négociants qu'ils s'exposent beaucoup, s'ils reviennent dans ces contrées, et qu'ils ne doivent imputer qu'à eux les malheurs qui pourront leur arriver. Je sçais que notre commandant général seroit très fâché d'en venir à quelques violences, mais il a des ordres très précis de ne point laisser des négociants étrangers dans son gouvernement. Je suis, etc. »

Cela fait, je rembarquai et continuai ma route.

Le 7, je passai à un village Loup, où il n'y avoit que trois hommes; ils avoient mis un pavillon blanc sur leurs cabanes, le reste de leurs gens étoient allés à Chiningué, n'ayant pas osé rester chez eux. J'invitai ces trois hommes à venir, avec moi, à Chiningué, pour écouter ce que j'avois à leur dire. Je rembarquay et me rendis au village que l'on nomme le Rocher Écrit. Ce sont des Iroquois qui habitent cet endroit, et c'est une vieille femme de cette nation qui les conduit. Elle se regarde comme souveraine; elle est entièrement dévouée

aux Anglois. Tous les Sauvages s'étoient retirés. Il ne restoit dans ce lieu que six négociants anglois, qui vinrent en tremblant au-devant de moy. Je débarquay, et, lorsque je voulus leur parler, je fus fort embarrassé, n'ayant pas d'interprète de leur langue et eux feignant de n'en point entendre d'autre. Cependant ils se dégelèrent, et un d'entre eux parlant chaouanon, je leur fis la même sommation qu'aux autres et j'écrivis à leur gouverneur. Ils me dirent qu'ils alloient se retirer, qu'ils sçavoient bien n'avoir aucun droit de commerce, mais que, n'y ayant point trouvé d'obstacles jusqu'à présent, ils avoient cherché à gagner leurs vies, d'autant mieux que les Sauvages les y avoient attirés, mais que, dorénavant, ils n'y reviendroient plus. Cet endroit est un des plus beaux que j'ay vus jusqu'à présent dans la Belle Rivière.

Je décampay et fus coucher environ à trois lieues plus bas. Lorsque je fus débarqué, nos Sauvages me dirent qu'en passant ils avoient vu sur un rocher des écrits. Comme il estoit tard, je ne pus y envoyer que le lendemain. Je priai le R. P. Bonnecamp et M. de Joncaire d'y aller, dans l'idée que ces écrits pourroient me donner quelque lumière. Ils y furent de grand matin, et me rapportèrent que ce n'estoit rien autre chose que quelques noms anglois, écrits avec du charbon. Comme je n'étois qu'à deux lieues de Chiningué, je fis décrasser, le mieux qu'il me fut possible, les gens de mon détachement, afin de leur donner plus d'apparence, et disposer toutes choses pour me rendre à ce village en bon ordre, que je sçavois être un des plus considérables de la Belle Rivière.

Le 8, comme je me disposois à lever mon camp, je vis paroître un canot avec deux hommes. Je jugeai que c'étoient des envoyés du village, je les attendis. C'en estoit qui ve-

noient exprès pour examiner, par ma contenance, s'ils pourroient découvrir mes desseins. Je les reçus avec bonté et leur fis boire un coup de lait de leur père Onontio. C'est toujours, parmi les Nations Sauvages, la plus grande marque d'amitié qu'on puisse leur faire. Après avoir parlé quelque temps, ils me demandèrent de s'en retourner à leurs villages et me prièrent de leur donner quelques heures, afin qu'ils pussent se préparer à me recevoir. Peu après leur départ, j'embarquai, après avoir visité les armes du monde et fait distribuer des munitions en cas de bésoin, et ordonnai que, par canot, il n'y auroit que quatre fusils chargés à poudre, pour répondre au salut, et huit à balles, ayant bien des précautions à prendre avec des nations effrayées et ameutées. Lorsque je fus à la vue du village, je découvris trois pavillons françois et un anglois. Aussitôt que je fus découvert, les saluts de mousqueterie partirent du village, et, comme le courant est extrêmement fort à cet endroit et la rivière plate, il vint un Iroquois au-devant de moi pour m'indiquer le passage. Je fus rendu dans l'instant par la rapidité du courant. En débarquant, ils nous tirèrent une décharge à balles. Ce salut se fait dans toutes les nations du Sud; souvent il en arrive des accidents. Cette façon ne me surprit pas, non plus que les officiers du détachement. Cependant, comme j'avois à les soupçonner et que je ne croyois pas à leurs intentions bonnes, je leur fis dire par M. de Joncaire de cesser de tirer de cette façon, sans quoy, j'allois faire feu sur eux. Je leur fis dire, en même temps, d'abattre ce pavillon Anglois, ou que je le ferois oster moy-mesme, ce qui fut fait à l'instant. Une femme coupa le bâton, et le pavillon n'a pas paru depuis. Je débarquai, et, comme la grève est extrêmement étroite et très désavanta-

geuse, au cas que les Sauvages eussent de mauvais desseins; étant au bas d'un écore qui a plus de trente pieds de haut, je fis sur le champ monter mes canots et les bagages sur l'écore, afin de me trouver aussy avantageusement placé que ceux qui pourroient faire quelque entreprise. J'établis bien mon camp près du village, que je fis paroître le plus qu'il me fut possible, fis poser des corps de garde à la droite et à la gauche, ordonnai des factionnaires à peu de distance les uns des autres et fis tenir la nuit tout le monde au vivat (qui vive). MM. les officiers, qui n'étoient point de garde, eurent ordre de faire des rondes toute la nuit. Ces précautions empêchèrent les Sauvages de faire ce qu'ils avoient projeté, et que M. de Joncaire découvrit, peu de temps après, par le moyen de quelques femmes de sa connoissance. Ce village est de cinquante cabanes, composé d'Iroquois et de Chaouanons et de Loups et d'une partie des hommes des villages que j'avois passés, qui étoient venus s'y réfugier pour le rendre plus fort. Sur les cinq heures du soir, les chefs, accompagnés de trente à quarante guerriers, vinrent me saluer, me complimenter sur mon arrivée chez eux. Voicy leurs premières paroles, du 8 Aoust 1749 :

Par deux branches de porcelaine.

« Mon Père, par ces deux branches de porcelaine, nous venons te témoigner la joye, que nous avons, de te voir arriver dans notre village en bonne santé. Nous remercions le maître de la vie de t'avoir conservé dans une route aussy longue et aussy pénible que celle que tu as faite. Il y a longtemps que nous n'avions eu la satisfaction de voir des François dans

notre village. Nous t'y voyons, mon père, avec plaisir. Tu as dû remarquer par les pavillons, que tu as vus sur notre village, que notre cœur est entièrement François. Les jeunes gens, sans en connoître la conséquence, en avoient mis un, qui t'avoit déplû. Sitost que nous l'avons sû, tu l'as vu tomber; il n'avoit été mis que par parade et pour divertir la jeunesse, sans penser que la chose pût te déplaire. Nous t'invitons aussy, mon père, par ces mêmes branches de porcelaine, à nous ouvrir ton cœur, et à nous découvrir ce qui peut te donner du chagrin. Nous pensons que tu viens nous parler de la part de notre père Onontio. Nous sommes prêts à écouter sa parole, et nous te prions de vouloir bien différer jusqu'à ce que nos chefs de village, que nous attendons, soient arrivés. »

Réponse de M. de Céloron par deux branches de porcelaine.

« Je vous suis obligé, mes enfants, du plaisir, que vous paroissez avoir, de me voir arriver dans votre village. Je n'y suis venu, comme vous le pensez, que pour vous parler, de la part de votre père Onontio, des bonnes affaires; c'est ce que je vous expliquerai demain, lorsque vous serez tous assemblés.

« Vous avez raison de dire que le pavillon anglois, que j'ay aperçu sur votre village, m'a déplu. Ce mélange de pavillons françois et anglois ne convient point aux enfants du gouverneur et sembleroit marquer que leur cœur est partagé. Qu'il soit abattu de façon à n'être plus relevé. Les jeunes gens l'ont mis sans esprit, les anciens l'ont osté par réflexion, ils ont bien fait. Par ces deux branches de porcelaine, je débouche, à mon tour, vos oreilles et vous ouvre les yeux pour bien

entendre ce que j'ay à vous dire demain de la part de votre père Onontio. »

Ils se retirèrent chez eux, et, pour se tenir toujours prêts à tout événement, ils passèrent la nuit à danser, ayant toujours de leurs gens aux aguets.

Le 9 avant le jour, M. de Joncaire, à qui j'avois recommandé, aussy bien qu'à Monsieur son frère, d'examiner, pendant la nuit, les manœuvres de ces Sauvages, vint me dire qu'ils avoient eu avis que quatre-vingts guerriers étoient sur le point d'arriver, et que la résolution étoit prise dans le village de nous attaquer. Sur cette nouvelle, que je communiquai à MM. les officiers, je donnai de nouveaux ordres pour que tout fût prest, en cas qu'il fallût en venir aux mains. Je fis tenir tout mon monde en bonne contenance; je plaçai MM. les officiers de façon qu'ils étoient à portée de les encourager à bien faire leur devoir, et attendis, environ deux heures, à quoy se termineroit leur résolution. Voyant que rien n'avançoit, je leur envoyai M. de Joncaire leur dire que je sçavois le parti qu'ils avoient pris, que je les attendois avec impatience, et, s'ils ne se dépêchoient de mettre à exécution ce qu'ils avoient projeté, j'irois les attaquer. Peu de temps après, M. de Joncaire revint; les Sauvages défilèrent devant mon camp et firent le salut à l'ordinaire. Ils pouvoient être cinquante hommes, suivant ce que m'ont dit plusieurs officiers, qui les avoient comptés en défilant; bien des guerriers du village avoient été au-devant des arrivants dans la nuit.

Toutes ces manœuvres me persuadèrent des mauvaises dispositions de ces nations, mais, comme je sçavois que l'intention de M. le marquis de la Galissonière étoit de rame-

ner ces Sauvages par la douceur, et que d'ailleurs j'étois engagé dans un pays où il auroit été très difficile de me retirer, étant dans l'impossibilité de remonter la Belle Rivière, tant par sa rapidité que par le manque de vivres et le mauvais état de mes canots, et que, de plus, s'il fût arrivé une action, toutes les nations y étoient intéressées, je pris le parti de la dissimulation et me déterminai à m'en tenir à parler ferme à ces Sauvages et à leur en imposer par la bonne contenance que je tiendrois.

Environ deux heures après l'arrivée de ces guerriers, les considérables, avec ceux du village, vinrent à ma tente, avec des calumets de paix, me faire leur compliment et me les présenter pour fumer. Avant que de les accepter, je leur reprochai leur façon d'agir en termes, qui leur furent parfaitement expliqués par M. de Joncaire. Voicy les discours que je leur fis.

Paroles de M. de Céloron aux Sauvages de Chiningué par quatre branches de porcelaine, le 9 *août* 1749.

« Je suis surpris, mes enfants, après avoir eu l'attention de vous envoyer M. de Joncaire à la Paille Coupée et Attiqué pour vous annoncer mon arrivée dans ce pays et vous faire savoir que je vous apportois la parole de votre père Onontio, de vous voir effrayés, interdits et faire des manœuvres qui n'ont jamais convenu aux enfants du Gouverneur. Je vous ai fait dire par des branches de porcelaine que je ne venois que pour travailler aux bonnes affaires, elles vous ont été remises. Vous deviez me croire; et vous connoissez assez le François pour sçavoir qu'il est vray et qu'il ne parle jamais du bout des lèvres. Si j'avois eu des desseins tels que vous vous l'êtes

imaginé ou que de mauvais esprits vous ont dit, je vous l'aurois caché, cela m'étoit facile. Je ne serois point arrivé aussy tranquillement que je fais à votre village; je sçais faire la guerre, et ceux qui l'ont eue avec nous doivent le sçavoir, mais je ne sçais point faire de trahison. Par ces quatre branches de porcelaine je vous ouvre de nouveau les oreilles, j'éclaire votre esprit, et j'ôte le bandeau que vous avez sur les yeux, afin que vous puissiez entendre la parole de votre père Onontio, qui est rempli de bonté pour vous, quoiqu'il ait eu des sujets de mécontentement de quelqu'un d'entre vous.

« Je veux bien présentement fumer dans vos calumets pour vous prouver que j'oublie ce que vous avez fait.

« Je vous parlerai demain de la part de votre père Onontio. Je vous invite à chasser le mauvais esprit, qui vous séduit et qui vous perdra sans ressource, si vous n'y faites attention. »

Je fumai dans les calumets. Ils s'en retournèrent très satisfaits, et tout fut tranquille le reste du jour et la nuit suivante.

Le 10 Aoust, sur les dix heures du matin, je fis assembler tous les chefs et une partie des guerriers à mon camp, j'avois fait préparer un endroit pour le conseil; je leur dis la parole de M. le Général, qu'ils écoutèrent avec beaucoup d'attention.

Parole de M. le marquis de la Galissonière aux nations de Chiningué, portée par M. de Céloron, le 10 *Aoust* 1749.

Par un collier.

« L'amitié, que j'ay pour vous, mes enfants, malgré votre éloignement de moy, m'a engagé à vous envoyer M. de Céloron pour vous porter ma parole et vous engager à ouvrir

les yeux sur les projets que les Anglois forment sur vos terres. Vous ignorez, sans doute, les établissements qu'ils se proposent d'y faire, qui ne tendent pas moins qu'à votre ruine entière. Ils vous cachent leurs idées, qui sont de s'y établir, de façon qu'ils se rendroient maîtres de cette terre et vous en chasseroient, si je les laissois faire. Je dois comme un bon père, qui aime ses enfants tendrement, qui, quoique éloigné d'eux, les porte tous dans son cœur, les avertir du péril qui les menace, qui est le dessein que l'Anglois a formé de s'emparer de vos terres, et, pour y parvenir, il a commencé à vous gâter l'esprit. Vous savez, mes enfants, qu'ils n'ont rien oublié, dans cette dernière guerre, pour vous mettre aux mains avec moy. La majeure partie de votre nation a eu assez d'esprit pour ne les pas écouter; je leur en sçais bon gré et oublie en bon père le passé, persuadé qu'à l'avenir vous demeurerez tranquilles sur vos nattes. Quelque guerre que j'aie avec les Anglois, il est de votre avantage de garder la neutralité, que vous-mêmes m'avez demandée, lorsque vous êtes venus à Montréal, à laquelle j'ai bien voulu consentir. Par ce moyen vous conserverez cette paix, qui fait le bonheur des nations.

« Comme je sçais que l'Anglois ne vous inspire que de mauvais sentiments, et que, d'ailleurs, il projette par ses établissements sur la Belle Rivière qui m'appartient, de s'en emparer, je l'envoye sommer de se retirer, et je suis d'autant plus en droit de le faire que les Roys de France et d'Angleterre sont convenus que jamais l'Anglois n'y viendroit, ni en commerce ni autrement. C'est même une des conditions de la paix, que nous venons de faire ensemble; de plus, les chefs des Cinq Nations ont dit aux Anglois de ne pas passer

les montagnes, qui sont leurs bornes. Je ne veux point pour cette fois user de violence avec eux, je leur dis doucement mes sentiments, qu'ils y fassent attention. Si, à l'avenir, il leur arrivoit malheur, ils ne pourroient s'en prendre qu'à eux. Pour vous, mes enfans, demeurez tranquilles sur vos nattes, et n'entrez point dans les discussions que je pourrois avoir avec l'Anglois; j'aurai attention à tout ce qui pourra vous être avantageux. Je vous invite à me venir voir l'année prochaine. Je vous donnerai des marques de mon amitié et vous mettrai en état de ne point regretter ceux que je vous exhorte à ne point souffrir chez vous; je vous donnerai tous les secours d'un bon père, qui vous aime et qui ne vous laissera manquer de rien. Ceux qui vous les apporteront n'envieront jamais vos terres, soit par achat ni usurpation. Loin de cela, je leur ordonnerai de vous y maintenir contre tous, et vos intérêts seront toujours les miens, si vous vous comportez bien. Par ce moyen, vous serez toujours tranquilles, et la paix sera dans vos villages. J'ay voulu, mes enfans, vous dire les sentimens de votre père, avant de parler aux Anglois, que je vais envoyer chercher pour leur dire de se retirer. »

Le Conseil fini, ils parurent très satisfaits de ce que je leur avois dit et furent à leurs villages pour concerter ensemble leurs réponses, que je leur dis de faire le lendemain, ayant bien du chemin à faire et la saison étant fort avancée.

Ce village est composé d'Iroquois, de Chaouanons, de Loups, ce qui fit que le Conseil dura plus de quatre heures; outre ces trois nations, il y a dans le village des Iroquois du Sault Saint-Louis, du lac des Deux Montagnes, des Népissingues, des Abénakis, Outaouais et autres nations. Cet

assemblage forme un très mauvais village, qui, séduit par l'appât du bon marché que leur fait l'Anglois, les entretient dans de très mauvaises dispositions pour nous.

Je fis appeler les plus considérés des négocians anglois, à qui j'intimai une sommation de se retirer dans leur pays avec tous leurs engagés, ainsy que je l'avois fait à ceux que j'avois rencontrés précédemment.

Ils répondirent, comme les autres, qu'ils le feroient, qu'ils sçavoient bien n'avoir aucun droit de commerce dans la Belle Rivière. Je leur ajoutai que leur gouvernement étoit borné par les montagnes et qu'ils ne doivent pas passer outre. Ils en convinrent. J'écrivis au Gouverneur de la *Caroline,* comme j'avois fait pour celui de *Philadelphie.*

Le 11 Aoust, les Sauvages vinrent me faire leur réponse. S'ils sont sincères, je crois que M. le Général en sera satisfait, mais il y a peu à compter sur les promesses de pareilles gens, d'autant mieux, comme je viens de dire, que leurs intérêts les engagent à voir de bon œil les Anglois, qui leur donnent les marchandises à si bas prix, qu'il y auroit lieu de penser que le Roy d'Angleterre ou la contrée supporte la perte, que les négocians font dans la vente de leurs marchandises pour s'attirer les nations. Il est vray que les frais des Anglois ne sont pas à beaucoup près si considérables, que ceux que nos négociants seroient obligés de faire par la difficulté des routes. Il est pourtant certain que nous ne ramènerons jamais les nations, qu'en leur donnant les marchandises au même prix que l'Anglois. La difficulté est d'en trouver les moyens.

Voicy les réponses que les Sauvages de Chiningué ont faites à la parole de M. le Général le 11 Aoust 1749 :

« Mon père, nous sommes bien aises de vous voir aujourd'hui et de la façon dont vous nous regardez. Le commandant du Détroit et celui de Niagara nous ont fait dire d'aller voir Onontio. Aujourd'huy vous venez vous-même nous inviter à descendre. Il faudroit avoir perdu l'esprit pour ne pas faire attention à votre parole. Par ce collier, nous vous assurons que toutes les nations qui habitent cette rivière descendront le printemps prochain, afin d'écouter la parole de notre père Onontio. Rien ne sera capable de nous détourner des sentimens dans lesquels nous sommes; quand même il ne resteroit qu'une seule personne, elle auroit le plaisir de voir notre père. Les souliers que nous ferons, à la fonte des glaces, ne seront point capables de nous conduire à Montréal; nous te prions de pourvoir à cela, afin que nous puissions en trouver à Niagara, lorsque nous y passerons.

« Mon père, ayez pitié de nous. Nous n'avons plus d'anciens chefs; ce ne sont que des jeunes gens qui vous parlent; pardonnez les fautes que nous pouvons faire, puisque vous, qui êtes la sagesse même, vous en faites. Vous venez chasser l'Anglois de ce continent; c'est à quoy nous consentons volontiers, mais vous deviez aussy amener avec vous des commerçans pour nous fournir nos besoins. Si vous avez pitié de nous, laissez-nous l'Anglois, afin qu'il puisse nous donner les secours qui nous seront nécessaires jusqu'au printemps. Vous voyez l'état malheureux où nous serions, si vous n'avez cette bonté pour nous. Ne soyez point surpris de ne pas voir les réponses de vos colliers. Ceux que vous voyez ici ne sont que des jeunes gens qui gardent les cabanes. Lorsque nos chefs et nos guerriers seront de retour, nous les instruirons de vos intentions et des sentimens de notre père Onon-

tio, et afin que nous soyons tranquilles, nous vous prions de nous laisser un de nos enfans, Joncaire, pour nous conduire chez notre père et travailler conjointement aux bonnes affaires. »

Réponse de M. de Céloron à la demande que les Sauvages lui ont faite pour avoir un des MM. Joncaire.

« Mes enfans, il n'est point en mon pouvoir de disposer des officiers que votre père m'a confiés. Quand vous descendrez, vous lui pourrez demander un des MM. de Joncaire, et je suis persuadé qu'il ne vous refusera pas. »

Suite de la parole des Sauvages.

« Nous vous remercions de l'espérance, que vous nous donnez, que notre père nous accordera un de nos enfants. Nous vous assurons, de nouveau, que nous ferons, sans réserve, tout ce que vous nous avez demandé. Nous serions charmés de vous voir plus longtemps et nous remercions nos frères, qui sont avec vous, des conseils qu'ils nous ont donnés, et nous y ferons attention. »

Lorsque le conseil fut fini, je fis apporter les présents que je leur avois destinés, qui estoient assez considérables; ils en furent très flattés. Je les encourageai de nouveau à tenir ce qu'ils avoient promis, et surtout à venir voir M. le Général l'année prochaine, les assurant qu'ils auroient lieu d'être satisfaits de la réception de leur père Onontio. Mes affaires étant finies, je fis mettre mes canots à l'eau et embarquai pour continuer ma route.

Environ quatre lieues plus bas il y a une rivière au Sud,

sur laquelle il y a plusieurs villages; je n'y débarquay point, leur ayant parlé à Chiningué.

Le 12, je me suis embarqué sur les 6 heures du matin. Après avoir fait quatre à cinq lieues, je rencontrai deux pirogues, chargées de paquets et conduites par quatre Anglois. Je débarquay pour leur parler. Tout ce que je pus tirer d'eux, c'est qu'ils venoient de Saint-Yotoc, d'où ils étoient partis depuis vingt-cinq jours. Je n'avois point d'interprètes anglois, et ils ne savoient point parler iroquois. C'étoit la seule langue, dont j'avois un interprète. Je rembarquay et marchay jusqu'à 3 heures, et ayant bien des malades, je fis chasser mes Sauvages, dans l'espérance que cette Belle Rivière, qu'on avoit annoncée à M. le Gouverneur pour être abondante en bœufs, m'en fourniroit pour rafraîchir mon monde, qui ne vivoit plus qu'à la colle, mais je fus trompé. Mes Sauvages n'avoient tué que quelques chevreuils; c'est une faible ressource pour soulager du monde affamé et malade.

Le 13, je suis parti de grand matin, et je rencontrai plusieurs pirogues, conduites par des Iroquois, qui alloient en chasse dans des rivières qui sortent des terres. A midi, je fis sceller et enterrer une plaque de plomb à l'entrée de la rivière Kanououara, Est-Sud de la Belle Rivière, et fis attacher à un arbre les armes du Roy et en dressai le procès-verbal suivant.

Procès-verbal de la position d'une plaque de plomb à l'entrée de la rivière de Kanououara.

« L'an 1749, nous Céloron, chevalier de l'ordre royal et militaire de Saint-Louis, capitaine, commandant le détachement, envoyé par les ordres de M. le marquis de La Galisso-

nière, commandant général en Canada, dans la Belle Rivière, accompagné des principaux officiers de notre détachement avons enterré au pied d'un gros orme, à l'entrée de la Rivière et sur la rive septentrionale de Kanououara, qui se décharge à l'Est de la rivière Oyo, une plaque de plomb et fait attacher, dans le même lieu, à un arbre, les armes du Roy. En foy de quoy avons dressé et signé avec MM. les officiers le présent procès-verbal. A notre camp, le 13 Août 1749. »

Le 14 Aoust, je suis parti sur les 7 heures du matin, n'ayant pû le faire plustost à cause de la brume. Je passai deux rivières, dont les embouchures sont très belles. La chasse a été assez abondante, ce jour-là, en chevreuil.

Le 15, je continuai ma route et posai une plaque de plomb à l'entrée de la rivière Yenanguakouan, et en dressay le procès-verbal suivant.

Procès-verbal de la position d'une quatrième plaque de plomb à l'entrée de la rivière Yenanguakouan, le 15 *Aoust* 1749.

« Le 15 Aoust 1749, nous Céloron, chevalier de l'ordre royal et militaire de Saint-Louis, capitaine commandant du détachement, envoyé par les ordres de M. le marquis de la Galissonière, commandant général en Canada, dans la Belle Rivière, autrement dit la rivière Oyo, accompagné des principaux officiers de notre détachement, avons enterré au pied d'un érable, qui forme un trépied avec un chêne rouge et un orme, à l'entrée de la rivière Yenanguakouan, sur la rive occidentale de cette rivière, une plaque de plomb, et attaché dans le même lieu à un arbre les armes du Roy. En foy de

quoy, nous avons dressé le présent procès-verbal avec MM. les officiers. A notre camp, le 15 Aoust 1749. »

Le 16 Aoust, je ne pus partir que sur les 9 heures, ayant là couché dans les bois. Je fis environ douze lieues.

Le 17, j'embarquai à 7 heures. Dans le cours de la journée, je passai deux belles rivières qui descendent des terres, l'une au Nord, et l'autre au Sud de la Belle Rivière. Je n'en sçais pas les noms. Je débarquai de bonne heure pour faire chasser, étant tous réduits à la colle.

Le 18, je suis parti d'assez bonne heure. Je campai à midy, la pluie nous ayant empêchés de continuer notre route, j'ay, ce même jour, posé une plaque de plomb à l'entrée de la rivière Chinondaista et fait appliquer les armes du Roy à un arbre. Cette rivière porte canots, pendant quarante lieues, sans rencontrer de rapides et prend source proche la Caroline. Les Anglois de ce gouvernement viennent pour la traite dans la Belle Rivière.

Procès-verbal de la cinquième plaque de plomb posée dans l'entrée de la rivière Chinondaista le 18 *Aoust* 1749.

« L'an 1749, nous Céloron, chevalier de l'ordre royal et militaire de Saint-Louis, capitaine commandant du détachement envoyé par les ordres de M. le marquis de La Galissonière, commandant général en Canada, dans la Belle Rivière, autrement dit de l'Oyo, accompagné des principaux officiers de notre détachement, avons enterré au pied d'un orme, sur la rive méridionale de l'Oyo et la rive orientale de Chinondaista, une plaque de plomb, et avons, dans le même lieu, appliqué à un arbre les armes du Roy. En foy de quoy

nous avons dressé le présent procès-verbal, que nous avons signé avec MM. les officiers. A notre camp le 18 Aoust 1749. »

Le 19, la pluye ayant continué avec tant de violence que je fus forcé de lever mon camp pour monter sur la coste, la grève estant inondée, le 20 je rembarquai. Après avoir fait quelques lieues, je vis de loin un homme sur la grève. Je fus à luy, c'étoit un sauvage Loup, qui revenoit de guerre sur la nation du Chien. Il y avoit seize jours qu'il estoit parti seul, sans vivre ny munition. Je luy en donnai pour se rendre à Chiningué, dont il estoit fort éloigné. Je l'interrogeai sur la quantité de monde qu'il pouvoit y avoir à *Saint-Yotoc* [1]; il me répondit qu'il pouvoit y avoir quatre-vingts cabanes et peut estre cent. Je continuai ma route jusque sur les trois heures et fis chasser.

Le 21, lesdits Sauvages de mon détachement vinrent me trouver pour me représenter qu'ils appréhendoient d'arriver à Saint-Yotoc, sans avoir prévenu les nations de cet endroit de mes desseins, que ce village étoit considérable et qu'il étoit à croire que ces Sauvages estoient avertis de ma marche, et n'estoient pas sans inquiétude, que ceux qui leur avoient porté la nouvelle de mon arrivée leur auroient dit, comme dans les villages que j'avois passé, bien des menteries, qui les porteroient à nous dresser bien des embuscades, en approchant du village. Je fis assembler MM. les officiers pour conférer ensemble du party que nous prendrions. Il fut délibéré qu'on envoyât un canot à Saint-Yotoc pour tranquilliser les nations et leur remettre l'esprit, en cas que quelque porteur

1. Le Père Bonnecamp met Sinioto. Si cela est juste, le copiste de notre texte aura fait des trois premières lettres le mot saint.

de nouvelles le leur eût troublé. Ce fut M. de Joncaire que je destinai à y aller avec Téganakassin et Laétarguerate, tous deux chefs du Sault de Saint-Louis et fidèles serviteurs du Roy et trois chefs Abenakis. M. de Niverville me demanda à y aller, je le luy permis. Je donnay quelques heures d'avance à mes envoyés, ensuite je rembarquai, et mis à terre, à l'ordinaire, pour faire chasser.

Le 22, j'embarquai sur les sept heures du matin, après avoir fait délivrer des munitions de guerre à tous mes gens, et les encourageai à bien faire leur devoir, si les Sauvages vouloient faire quelques entreprises sur nous. Après avoir fait environ quatre lieues, je découvris un canot, qui me parut armé de sept ou huit hommes et qui avoit un pavillon blanc. Sitôt qu'ils m'eurent découvert, ils mirent à terre, je fus à eux. C'étoit M. de Joncaire avec sept Sauvages, tant Chaouanons qu'Iroquois. Sitôt que je fus débarqué le chef vint me donner la maïn ; les autres en firent de même et furent s'asseoir et gardèrent le silence, pendant quelque temps. Ces gens me parurent fort émus. J'en demandai le sujet à M. de Joncaire, qui me dit que les nations de Saint-Yotoc étoient entièrement troublées, et que, lorsqu'ils étoient arrivés, ils avoient tiré sur eux à balles et même percé le pavillon de trois coups de balle; qu'en débarquant on les avoit conduits dans la cabane du Conseil, et que, lorsqu'il avoit voulu leur dire le sujet de sa commission, un Sauvage s'estoit levé et l'avoit interrompu, disant que les François les trompoient et qu'ils ne venoient chez eux que pour les égorger avec leurs familles, qu'à l'instant la jeunesse avoit couru aux armes, en disant : « Il faut commencer par tuer ces François, envoyer nos familles dans les bois, et puis aller dresser des embuscades

aux canots. » Suivant ce que m'ont dit M. de Joncaire et les Sauvages qui l'accompagnoient, c'étoit fait d'eux, sans un chef Iroquois qui détourna l'orage et les tranquillisa, et s'engagea à venir au devant de moy avec ceux qui voudroient le suivre, et, pour seureté, ils gardèrent M. de Niverville et les Sauvages. Enfin, après une demi-heure de silence, le chef Iroquois se leva et me dit : « Mon père, tu vois devant tes yeux des gens sans esprit et qui ont été sur le point de brouiller la terre pour toujours. Regarde-nous en pitié et n'aie aucun ressentiment de ce que nous avons fait. Nos anciens, lorsque tu seras arrivé à notre village, te témoigneront leur repentir de la faute qu'ils ont commise. Depuis deux mois, nous sommes comme des gens ivres par les mauvaises nouvelles qui nous ont été rapportées des villages où tu as passé. »

Je lui répondis : « Je ne sais pas ce que tu veux me dire; lorsque je serai à Saint-Yotoc, je m'instruirai et je verrai ce que j'aurai à faire. Je te sais bon gré d'être venu jusqu'à moy. Tu aurois fait sagement de ramener les Sauvages, qui étoient avec M. de Joncaire. Tu peux retourner à ton village, je m'y rendrai dans peu. Tu recommanderas à tes jeunes gens de ne pas saluer à leur façon, qu'ils s'exposeroient. » Je luy fis donner un coup à boire et à ceux qui étoient avec luy et les renvoyai.

Par ce que me dit M. de Joncaire, je connus bien que ces Sauvages étoient très mal intentionnés et fort effrayés, puisque, en deux fois vingt-quatre heures, ils avoient fait un fort de pieux, bien redoublé, et s'étoient mis en état de s'y défendre. Cela me fit faire de plus sérieuses réflexions. Je connoissois la foiblesse de mon détachement; les deux tiers étoient des jeunes gens, qui n'étoient jamais sortis, et qui, à l'aspect de

dix Sauvages matachés, auroient pris la fuite. Je n'avois pas été le maître d'en choisir d'autres, et, quelque recommandation qu'eût faite M. de La Galissonière, en partant pour Québec, de me donner des hommes choisis, on n'y avoit eu aucun égard. Il n'y avoit point d'autre party à prendre que celuy de continuer ma route. Manquant de vivres, mes canots *hors de service, plus de gomme ny d'écorce,* je rembarquai, prêt à tout événement. J'avois de bons officiers et environ cinquante hommes sur lesquels je pouvois faire fond.

A un quart de lieue du village, je fus découvert. Aussitôt les saluts commencèrent, et ces Sauvages tirèrent bien mille coups de fusil. J'ay sçu que la poudre leur étoit fournie gratis par les Anglois. Je débarquai vis-à-vis le village et fis rendre le salut. Les chefs et les anciens traversèrent la rivière, et vinrent à moi avec le pavillon et le calumet de paix, firent couper de l'herbe pour nous faire des sièges et m'invitèrent à prendre séance avec tous les officiers; ils avoient ramené avec eux le sieur de Niverville et les Sauvages, qu'ils avoient gardés. Comme nous allions nous asseoir, il traversa environ quatre-vingts hommes armés et équipés en guerriers. Je fis prendre les armes à mon détachement. Ces quatre-vingts hommes bordèrent une haie à vingt pas de nous et se posèrent sur leurs fusils. Je dis au chef que j'étois surpris de la manœuvre de ces étourdis, et que, s'ils ne se retiroient promptement, je ferois tirer dessus. Ils me répondirent qu'ils n'étoient pas venus à mauvais dessein, qu'ils venoient saluer de nouveau, mais qu'ils alloient se retirer, puisque cela me déplaisoit. Ce qu'ils firent sur le champ, en tirant leurs fusils au vent, qui n'étoient chargés qu'à poudre. Les calumets me furent pré-

sentés et à tous les officiers. Après cette cérémonie, un chef Chaouanon se leva et me complimenta sur mon arrivée. Je lui dis que je leur parlerois, le lendemain, à ma tente, où j'allumerois le feu du Gouverneur. Ils me répondirent qu'ils avoient dans leur village une cabane de conseil, où ils écouteroient, si je voulois m'y rendre avec tous mes officiers, ce que j'avois à leur dire de la part de leur père Onontio. Je leur refusai, et leur dis que c'étoit à eux à venir chez moi entendre ce que j'avois à leur dire, et, étant mal intentionnés, ça auroit été une grande imprudence d'aller dans leur village. Je tins ferme sur cet article et les amenai à mon point.

Ils s'en retournèrent à leur village; on posa les corps de garde, et les rondes, toute la nuit, furent faites très exactement par MM. les officiers. Il est à observer qu'à ce village, qui est composé de Chaouanons et d'Iroquois des Cinq Nations, il s'y est joint plus de trente hommes du Sault Saint-Louis, que le libertinage a fait retirer là. L'abondance de la chasse et le bon marché, que les Anglois leur font, sont des motifs bien séduisants pour eux. Le fils de Tenagakassin y est, et jamais son père ny moy n'avons pû le ramener. Outre les gens du Sault Saint-Louis, il y en a du Lac des Deux Montagnes, des Loups, des Miamis et de presque toutes les nations des Pays d'en Haut. Tous ces adjoints ne valent pas mieux que les Chaouanons et sont entièrement dévoués aux Anglois.

Le 23, je les envoyai avertir par M. de Joncaire de venir à mon camp pour entendre la parole de leur père. Ils refusèrent d'abord d'y venir, disant que c'étoit dans la cabane du Conseil qu'il falloit leur parler. Je répondis à cela que c'étoit aux enfans à venir trouver leur père, où il vouloit allumer

son feu. Après quelques pourparlers, ils se rendirent à mon camp et me firent leurs excuses en ces termes :

Parole des Sauvages de Styotok à M. de Céloron, par quatre branches de porcelaine, le 23 Aoust 1749.

« Mon père, nous sommes honteux de paroistre devant toi, après l'extravagance que nous avons faite hier à ceux que tu nous avois envoyés. Nous en sommes au désespoir. Nous t'en demandons pardon et à nos frères, et te prions d'enterrer cette mauvaise affaire. Le regret, que nous en avons, nous fait espérer que tu nous pardonneras. »

Réponse de M. de Céloron aux Sauvages de Styotoc, le même jour.

« Mes enfants, l'on ne peut être plus surpris que je l'ay été, lorsque j'ay appris, par le canot qui est venu au devant de moy, la réception que vous avez faite aux chefs, que je vous avois envoyé pour vous annoncer mon arrivée et vous dire que je venois vous apporter la parole de votre père Onontio. Ils étoient munis de toutes les marques qui pouvoient vous prouver que je ne venois dans votre village que tranquillement. Cette marque, si respectable pour toutes les nations, ne l'a pas été pour vous autres, et vous avez tiré dessus. Non contents de cela, vous avez écouté par préférence à ma parole, celle d'un méchant homme qui est dans votre village et qui est esclave. J'ay été d'autant plus surpris que, connoissant depuis longtemps les Chaouanons pour avoir de l'esprit, ils ont paru dans cette occasion plus empressés à insulter les en-

voyés. — Qu'as-tu fait, Chaouanon, de l'esprit que tu avois, il y a dix ans? Quand M. de Longueil a passé par icy pour aller aux Chicachas, tu fus au devant de luy, et, par toutes sortes d'endroits, tu lui marquas la bonté de ton cœur et tes sentiments. Il se leva même une troupe de tes jeunes gens pour le suivre. Il ne t'avoit pourtant pas fait avertir de son arrivée, mais tu avois, dans ce temps là, le cœur françois, et, aujourd'huy, tu te laisses corrompre par l'Anglois, qui habite avec toi continuellement et qui, sous prétexte de te donner quelques secours, ne cherche qu'à te perdre. Fais réflexion aux justes reproches que je te fais et défais-toi de ces mauvaises gens, qui seront, si tu n'y prends garde, la ruine de ta nation.

« Tu m'as débouché, à mon arrivée, le gozier par quatre branches de porcelaine; je n'avois pas besoin de cette médecine. Le cœur du gouverneur est un tuyau bon pour ses enfants, mais comme il t'en faut une dose plus forte, par ces branches de porcelaine, je fais évacuer toutes tes mauvaises humeurs. Le pardon que tu me demandes de ta faute et le regret, que tu me parois en avoir, me portent à te faire grâce. Sois plus sage à l'avenir, j'enterre cette mauvaise affaire, comme tu me le demandes, et je prierai ton père Onontio de n'en conserver aucun ressentiment. Je t'invite à rejeter tous les mauvais discours, qu'on pourra te faire à l'avenir et à bien écouter la parole de ton père Onontio que je viens t'apporter. »

Paroles de M. le Général aux Sauvages du village de Styotoc, portées par M. de Céloron, par un collier, le 23 Aoust 1749.

« L'amitié, mes enfants, que j'ay pour vous, quoique très éloigné, m'a engagé à envoyer M. de Céloron pour vous faire ouvrir les yeux et vous découvrir les projets que l'Anglois forme sur vous et sur les terres que vous habitez. Vous ignorez, sans doute, les établissements qu'ils peuvent y faire, qui ne tendent pas moins qu'à votre ruine; ils vous cachent leurs idées, qui sont d'y former et construire des forts assez considérables pour vous détruire, si je les laissois faire. Je dois, comme un bon père qui aime tendrement ses enfants, et qui, quoyqu'éloigné d'eux, pense toujours à ce qui leur est avantageux, les avertir du péril qui les menaçe. Vous sçavez, mes enfants, qu'ils n'ont rien oublié dans la dernière guerre, que j'ay eue avec eux, pour vous engager à vous déclarer contre moy. Heureusement pour vous que vous ne les avez pas écoutés, je vous en sçay bon gré. D'autres se sont laissé séduire, je leur ai pardonné à quelques-uns, persuadé qu'ils seront plus prudents à l'avenir et n'écouteront plus ces mauvais génies, qui ne cherchent qu'à troubler la terre; mais, pour vous mettre entièrement à l'abri de leur séduction, je les envoye sommer promptement de se retirer de dessus mes terres, où ils n'ont jamais été en droit d'entrer. Les Rois de France et d'Angleterre étant convenus dans les traités de paix, que jamais l'Anglois ne viendroit en commerce ny autrement dans la Belle Rivière, je ne veux point user, pour cette fois, de la force, quoy que je fusse en droit de les

faire piller; je les fais avertir doucement qu'ils y fassent attention; si une autre fois il leur arrivoit malheur, ils ne pourroient s'en prendre qu'à eux. Pour vous, mes enfans, demeurez tranquilles sur vos nattes, et n'entrez point dans les discussions, que je pourrois avoir avec l'Anglois; j'aurai attention à tout ce qui pourra vous être avantageux. Je vous invite à me venir voir l'année prochaine. Je vous donnerai des marques de mon amitié, et vous mettrai en état de ne point regretter ceux que j'éloigne de mes terres. Je vous donnerai tous les secours que vous devez attendre d'un bon père, qui vous aime et ne vous laissera manquer de rien. Ceux qui vous les apporteront, n'envahiront point vos terres pour vous en chasser. Au contraire, je leur ordonnerai de vous y maintenir, et les intérêts seront toujours les mêmes. »

Par un autre collier.

« Depuis deux ans que je suis dans le pays, je me suis entièrement occupé de connoître les intérêts de mes enfans et ce qui pouvoit leur estre avantageux; j'ay appris avec peine l'affaire, qui est arrivée entre vous et les Illinois. Comme vous êtes également mes enfans et que j'ay pour vous des entrailles de père, je charge M. de Céloron, que j'envoye dans tous les villages de la Belle Rivière porter ma parole, de vous donner ce collier de ma part pour vous engager à vous réconcilier avec vos frères les Illinois. J'ay pris la même précaution avec eux, ayant envoyé au commandant de ce poste ordre de leur parler de ma part et de leur dire de se tenir tranquilles. J'espère, mes enfants, que vous écouterez les uns et les autres avec plaisir ma parole et que vous vous porterez à vivre en paix et union comme mes véritables enfans. Je

n'entre point dans le sujet de votre querelle. J'ignore même quel est l'agresseur; mais, tel qu'il soit, il est à propos qu'il fasse les avances nécessaires pour la réconciliation et que l'offensé oublie l'injure qu'il a reçue. Je lui en serai obligé, d'autant que je ne cherche qu'à leur procurer ce qu'il y a de plus avantageux. »

Pendant que nous étions dans le conseil, un Chaouanon entra avec un air bien effrayé et dit aux chefs que toutes les nations du Détroit venoient fondre sur eux, et que, pendant que je les amusois, ils alloient voir leur village détruit. Je vis qu'il y avoit de l'altération dans ce sauvage, j'en demandai le sujet. Je les rassurai sur leur frayeur, et les remis si bien, que le conseil ne fut pas longtemps interrompu.

Après leur avoir expliqué les intentions de M. le Général, je leur fis donner un coup à boire, ils s'en retournèrent à leur village.

Sitost qu'ils furent partis, j'envoyai M. de Joncaire pour s'informer de la nouvelle qui venoit d'arriver; ils ne furent pas longtemps à revenir et me rapportèrent que c'étoient trois Outaouas, qui étoient arrivés à un village dans les terres, à dix lieues de Saint-Yotoc, et que, sur-le-champ, il étoit parti des courriers pour nous en rapporter la nouvelle, que les Outaouas n'arriveroient que dans deux jours. Je jugeai que c'étoient des courriers, que M. de Sabrevois m'envoyoit pour me donner avis des dispositions des gens du Détroit.

Le 24, les Sauvages répondirent, après avoir fait quelques difficultés de venir faire leur réponse au camp françois, mais, voyant que je persistois avec fermeté dans mon système, ils

vinrent, et voicy leur réponse très mal expliquée, leur interprète étant très mauvais :

Réponse des Sauvages de Saint-Yotoc à la parole de M. le Général, du 24 Aoust 1749, par six branches de porcelaine.

« Mon père, nous venons vous dire que nous avons écouté la parole de notre père Onontio avec un grand plaisir, que tout ce qu'il nous a fait dire est vray et pour notre bien, et que nous et nos frères les Miamis, qui sont icy présens, nous y conformerons, n'ayant qu'une même pensée. Par ces branches de porcelaine nous assurons notre père Onontio, que tous ceux qui demeurent dans notre village ne travailleront plus aux mauvaises affaires et n'écouteront plus les mauvais discours.

« Mon père, nous vous remercions de ce que vous voulez bien nous réconcilier avec nos frères les Illinois. Nous vous promettons d'y travailler. Cette parole a fait plaisir à tout notre village.

« Mon père, par ces branches de porcelaine nous vous remercions de la façon avec laquelle vous nous avez parlé; nous vous encourageons à continuer votre route et à donner de l'esprit à tous vos enfants, afin que la terre soit tranquille. Pour nous Chaouanons, nous vous assurons que nous ne travaillerons plus qu'aux bonnes affaires. »

Le 25, je fis assembler tous les chefs et leur fis un présent de la part de M. le Général et les invitai à tenir la parole qu'ils m'avoient donnée.

Peu de temps après je fis venir les négociants Anglois et

les sommai de se retirer en leur faisant sentir qu'ils n'avoient aucun droit de commerce ni autre dans la Belle Rivière. J'écrivis au gouverneur de la Caroline que j'ai bien averti des risques que courroient leurs négociants, s'ils y revenoient. Cela m'estoit enjoint dans mes instructions et même de piller les Anglois, mais je n'étois pas assez fort pour cela. Ces négociants estant establis dans le village et bien soutenus par les Sauvages, j'aurois fait une entreprise, qui n'auroit pas réussi et auroit retourné à la honte des François.

Les Outaouas, envoyés par M. de Sabrevois, arrivèrent m'apporter des lettres, par lesquelles on me donnoit avis qu'il n'étoit rien de ce que M. La Naudière m'avoit dit des dispositions des Sauvages du Détroit, et, loin de cela, que quelque effort que M. de Longueil et luy eussent fait pour les engager à marcher, ils avoient constamment refusé. Je donnai des vivres à ces courriers, quoique j'en fusse bien court, et j'écrivis à M. de Sabrevois et le priai de me tenir vingt canots au bas du Détroit, avec des vivres pour mon détachement au commencement d'Octobre.

Le 26, je suis parti à dix heures du matin de Saint-Yotoc. Tous les Sauvages étoient sous les armes et saluèrent, lorsque je passai devant le village.

Le 27, j'arrivai à la rivière Blanche sur les dix heures du soir. Je sçavois qu'à trois lieues dans les terres, il y avoit six cabanes de Miamis, ce qui me fit coucher à cet endroit.

Le 28, j'envoyai M. de Villiers et mon fils à ces cabanes pour dire à ces Sauvages de venir me parler. Ils les amenèrent et je les engageai à venir avec moy au village de la Demoiselle, où j'allois porter la parole de leur père Onontio. Ils y consentirent et me demandèrent de séjourner le len-

demain pour leur donner le temps d'aller chercher leurs équipages. Il y a dans ce même village deux cabanes de Sonnontouans; la politique de ces nations est d'en avoir toujours avec eux, qui sont comme leurs boucliers. J'engageai un des Sonnontouans qui parle bien miamis de venir avec moy chez la Demoiselle. J'en avois besoin, n'ayant pas d'interprète de cette langue et j'avois des affaires de conséquence à traiter avec eux.

Le 29, j'écrivis à M. Raimond, capitaine et commandant aux Miamis, et le priai de m'envoyer le nommé Roy, interprète, avec le plus de chevaux qu'il luy seroit possible pour faire le transport de nos bagages dans un portage qui a cinquante lieues.

Le 30, les Sauvages de la rivière Blanche estant arrivés, j'embarquai pour gagner la rivière à la Roche, et, à l'entrée, je fis enterrer une plaque de plomb et attacher à un arbre les armes du Roy, dont je dressay un procès-verbal.

Procès-verbal de la sixième plaque de plomb enterrée à l'entrée de la rivière à la Roche, le 31 *Aoust* 1749.

« L'an 1749, nous Céloron, chevalier de l'ordre royal et militaire de Saint-Louis, capitaine commandant un détachement, envoyé par les ordres de M. le marquis de La Galissonière, commandant général en Canada dans la Belle Rivière, autrement dit l'Ohio, accompagné des principaux officiers de notre détachement, avons enterré sur la pointe formée par la rive droite de l'Ohio et la rive gauche de la Rivière à la Roche, une plaque de plomb et attaché à un arbre les armes du Roy. En foy de quoy, avons dressé et signé avec MM. les officiers, le présent procès-verbal. »

Cela fait, j'embarquai. Le peu d'eau que je trouvay dans cette rivière m'a fait mettre treize jours à la monter.

Le 12, les Miamis du village de la Demoiselle, ayant appris que j'étois près d'arriver chez eux, envoyèrent quatre chefs au devant de moy avec des calumets de paix pour me faire fumer. Comme j'avois la moitié de mon monde par terre, n'y ayant pas assez d'eau dans la rivière pour passer les canots chargés, je fus informé par M. de Courtemanche, officier du détachement, de l'arrivée de ces envoyés. Je débarquai à l'endroit où ils étoient, et lorsque nous fûmes tous assis, ils commencèrent leur cérémonie et me présentèrent le calumet; je l'acceptai. Ils le portèrent ensuite à M. de Contrecœur, capitaine en second du détachement, et à tous MM. les officiers et aux Canadiens qui, fort affamés de fumer, auroient voulu que la cérémonie eût duré plus longtemps. L'heure estant venue de camper, nous couchâmes à cet endroit; les envoyés restèrent avec nous. Je fus obligé, malgré le peu de vivres que j'avois, de leur donner à souper.

Le 13, j'arrivai au village de la Demoiselle, je fis placer mon camp et poser des corps de garde, et attendis l'arrivée de l'interprète, que j'avois demandé à M. de Raimond. Pendant ce temps, je sondai les esprits pour savoir s'ils étoient disposés à revenir à Kiskakon, c'est le nom de leur ancien village. Il me paroît qu'ils n'y avoient pas une grande répugnance. Ils avoient deux engagés anglois dans leur village, que je fis partir. Ceux qui y avoient passé l'été en commerce s'estoient retirés avec leurs effets par terre; ils ont des chemins de communication d'un village à l'autre.

Le 17, ennuyé de ce que l'interprète n'arrivoit pas et que mes vivres se consommoient en l'attendant, je me déter-

minay à parler à la Demoiselle par le moyen d'un Iroquois qui parloit bien miamis. Je leur montrai de magnifiques présents de la part de M. le Général, pour les engager à revenir à leur village et leur expliquai ses intentions en ces termes :

Paroles de M. le Général aux Miamis de la Demoiselle, establis à la Rivière à la Roche, et au Baril, establ y à la rivière Blanche, portées par M. de Céloron, le 17 *Septembre* 1749, *par huit branches de porcelaine pour les deux villages.*

« Mes enfants, la façon avec laquelle j'ai agi avec vous, malgré ce que vous avez fait aux François, ce que je vous avois donné pour faire subsister vos femmes et vos enfans, doit vous prouver l'attachement que j'ay pour vous et la droiture de mes sentiments. J'oublie ce que vous avez fait et je l'enterre dans le plus profond de la terre pour ne m'en plus ressouvenir, persuadé que vous n'avez rien fait qu'à l'instigation de gens dont la politique est de troubler la terre et de gâter l'esprit de ceux à qui ils les communiquent, et qui, profitant du malheureux ascendant que vous leur avez laissé prendre sur vous, vous font faire des fautes et vous engagent dans de mauvaises affaires, sans qu'ils paroissent y avoir aucune part, afin de vous perdre auprès de moy. C'est pour vous éclairer que je vous envoye ma parole, écoutez-la bien et faites-y attention, mes enfans; c'est la parole d'un père qui vous aime et à qui vos intérêts sont chers. J'éteins par ces deux branches de porcelaine les deux feux que vous avez allumés depuis deux ans à la rivière à la Roche et à la rivière Blanche, je les éteins de façon qu'il n'en paroisse sortir aucune étincelle. »

Par un collier à la Demoiselle et un au Baril.

« Mes enfans, je viens de vous dire par ces branches de porcelaine que j'éteignois les feux que vous aviez allumés à la rivière à la Roche et à la rivière Blanche. Par ces colliers je vous lève de dessus vos nattes, et je vous prends par la main pour vous mener à Kikakon, où je rallume votre feu et le rends plus solide que jamais. C'est dans cette terre, mes enfans, que vous jouirez d'une tranquillité parfaite et où je serai, à chaque instant, à portée de vous donner des marques de mon amitié; c'est dans cette terre, mes enfans, que vous jouirez des douceurs de la vie, étant l'*endroit où reposent les os de vos ancêtres et ceux de M. de Vincennes, que vous avez tant aimé et qui vous a toujours gouvernés* de façon que les affaires estoient toujours bonnes. Si vous avez oublié les conseils qu'ils vous donnèrent, ces cendres vous en rappelleront la mémoire. Les os de vos anciens souffrent de votre éloignement, ayez pitié de ces morts qui vous redemandent dans votre village. Suivez avec vos femmes et vos enfans; le chef, que je vous envoye, vous porte ma parole et allumera de nouveau votre feu à Kiskakon, de manière qu'il ne s'éteindra jamais. Je vous donnerai tous les secours que vous devez attendre de mon amitié, et songez, mes enfans, que je fais pour vous ce que je n'ai jamais fait pour aucune autre nation. »

Autre parole par quatre branches de porcelaine et deux au Baril.

« Par ces branches de porcelaine, je mets une barrière à tout passage qui conduise à la Belle Rivière, afin que vous n'y alliez plus, et que l'Anglois, qui est l'autheur de toutes les mauvaises affaires, ne puisse approcher de cette terre qui m'appartient. Je vous fais en même tems un beau chemin pour vous conduire à Kiskakon, où je rallume votre feu. Je romps tout commerce avec l'Anglois, que j'ai averty de se retirer de dessus mes terres, et si il y vient, il aura lieu de s'en repentir. »

Par deux branches de porcelaine à la Demoiselle et deux au Baril.

« Lorsque vous aurez fait, mes enfans, ce que je demande de vous, qui n'est que pour votre avantage, je vous invite à me venir voir, l'année prochaine, et à recevoir de moi-même des marques sensibles de mon amitié; j'y fais la même invitation à tous vos frères de la Belle Rivière. Je souhaite que vous ayez, les uns et les autres, assez d'esprit pour y répondre comme vous le devez, et, pour commencer à vous donner une preuve de mon amitié, je vous envoye ces présents pour couvrir vos femmes et vos enfants; j'y joins la poudre et des balles pour les faire vivre plus commodément dans la route que vous allez faire pour vous rendre à Kiskakon. Abandonnez la terre où vous êtes, elle vous est pernicieuse, et profitez de ce que je fais pour vous. »

Le conseil fini, chacun se retira. Ils emportèrent les présents à leur village, où ils s'assemblèrent pour faire leurs réponses.

Le 18, sur les neuf heures du matin, ils vinrent faire leur réponse.

Réponse de la Demoiselle, chef des Miamis, établis à la rivière à la Roche, et du Baril establi à la rivière Blanche, le 18 septembre 1749, par des calumets de paix.

« C'est l'ancienne coutume parmy nous, lorsqu'on parle de bonnes affaires, de présenter d'abord des calumets, nous vous prions de vouloir bien nous écouter. Nous allons répondre à ce que vous nous avez dit. Ce calumet est un témoignage du plaisir que j'ay de fumer ensemble, et nous espérons de fumer dans ce même calumet avec notre père l'année prochaine. »

Par un collier.

« Mon père, nous avons écouté hier avec plaisir votre parole. Nous avons bien vu que vous n'êtes venu q e pour de bonnes affaires. Nous n'avons que de bonnes réponses à vous faire. Vous nous avez fait ressouvenir des os de nos ancêtres, qui gémissent de nous voir dans cet endroit et qui nous rappellent continuellement. Vous nous faites un beau chemin pour retourner sur notre ancienne natte. Nous vous en remercions, mon père, et nous vous promettons de nous y rendre dès le petit printemps prochain. Nous vous remercions des bonnes paroles que vous nous avez données, nous

voyons bien que vous ne nous oubliez pas. Soyez persuadé que nous ne travaillerons jamais qu'aux bonnes affaires avec les Chaouànons. Nous nous ressouvenons des bons conseils que nous a donnés M. de Vincennes. Mon père, vous avez affaire à des gens sans esprit et qui ne peuvent vous répondre, peut-être, comme vous l'espériez, mais ils vous disent vray. Ce n'est point du bout des lèvres qu'ils vous parlent, c'est du fond du cœur. Vous nous avez dit de faire de sérieuses réflexions sur ce que vous nous disiez; nous les avons faites et nous continuerons de les faire pendant tout l'hyver. Nous espérons avoir le plaisir de vous donner une bonne parole ce printemps. Si la chasse est abondante, nous réparerons nos fautes. Nous vous assurons, mon père, que nous n'écouterons plus les mauvais discours ni les mauvaises nouvelles; nous avons à présent de l'esprit. »

Réponse de M. de Céloron à la Demoiselle et au Baril dans le même conseil.

« Je vous ay écoutés, mes enfants, et j'ay bien pesé votre parole. Soit que vous ne m'ayez pas bien entendu ou que vous en fassiez semblant, vous ne répondez point à ce que je vous ai dit. Je vous ai proposé, de la part de votre père Onontio, de venir avec moi à Kiskakon pour y rallumer votre feu et vous refaire votre natte; vous remettez à le faire ce printemps prochain. J'aurois été charmé de pouvoir dire à votre père Onontio que je vous avois ramenés; cela luy auroit fait plaisir par l'intérêt qu'il prend à ce qui vous regarde. Vous me donnez parole d'y venir à la fin de l'hyver; soyez fidèles dans votre promesse. Vous l'en assurez par ce

qu'il y a de plus fort, et, si vous y manquez, craignez les ressentimens d'un père qui n'a que trop de raison d'être irrité contre vous et qui vous a offert le moyen de rentrer en grâce auprès de lui. »

Réponse à ces paroles par la Demoiselle et le Baril.

« Mon père, nous serons fidèles à exécuter la parole que nous t'avons donnée; nous nous rendrons à la fin de l'hyver à notre ancienne cabane, et, si le Maître de la vie favorise notre chasse, nous espérons réparer nos fautes passées. Sois persuadé que nous ne parlons pas du bout des lèvres, mais du fond du cœur. Nous ne pouvons, pour le présent, retourner où tu veux nous mener, la saison est trop avancée. »

Le conseil fini, j'arrêtai quelques anciens pour tâcher de découvrir, si ce que l'on venoit de me dire étoit sincère. Comme je parlois avec ces Sauvages, qui m'assuroient que tous les deux villages reviendroient, le printemps, à Kiskakon et que ce qui les retenoit étoit de n'avoir point de cabanes de faites, où je voulois les conduire, et qu'en chassant dans l'hyver, ils se rapprocheroient de leur village et qu'ils y reviendroient absolument, Roy, que j'avois demandé à M. de Raymond, arriva le 19. Je séjournai, pour tâcher, par le moyen de Roy, de déterminer la Demoiselle avec quelques chefs pour revenir avec moy rallumer leurs feux et faire leurs nattes à Kiskakon. Je n'y pus réussir. Ils s'en tinrent toujours à dire et à assurer qu'ils reviendroient le printemps prochain.

Le 20, tout estoit prêt pour notre départ; nous levâmes notre camp. Après avoir fait brûler notre canot, dont nous

ne pouvions faire le transport, nous nous mîmes en marche par terre, chacun portant ses vivres et son bagage, excepté MM. les officiers, à qui j'avois procuré des chevaux et quelques hommes pour les porter. J'avois disposé tout mon monde en quatre brigades, dont chacune avoit un officier à la droite et un à la gauche; je conduisois la droite et M. de Contrecœur la gauche. Nous n'avons mis que cinq jours et demi à faire cette route, que l'on estime à cinquante lieues.

Le 25, j'arrivai chez M. de Raymond, qui commande à Kiskakon; je n'y restai que le temps qu'il me falloit pour acheter des vivres et des pirogues pour me rendre au Détroit.

Le 26, je fis venir le Pied Froid, chef des Miamis établis à Kiskakon, et quelques autres considérés, à qui je répétai, en présence de M. Raymond et des officiers de nos détachemens, ce que j'avois dit au village de la Demoiselle et les réponses que j'en avois eues. Après les avoir écoutées avec beaucoup d'attention, il se leva et me dit : « Je souhaite de me tromper, mais je suis assez attaché aux François pour le dire, que la Demoiselle mentira. Tout mon chagrin est d'être le seul qui vous aime, et de voir toutes les nations du Sud déchaînées contre les François. »

Le 27, je partis de chez M. de Raymond. N'ayant pas trouvé suffisamment de pirogues pour tout mon monde, une partie alla par terre, sous la conduite de quelques officiers et des Sauvages pour les guider par les bois. Je mis huit jours à me rendre au bas du Détroit, où je suis arrivé le 6 Octobre; je trouvai des canots et des vivres pour mon détachement. Je serois parti ce même jour, si mes Sauvages m'avoient suivi, mais ils s'amusèrent à boire dans le bois de la

rivière des Miamis; je les attendis le 7, et le 8 ils arrivèrent à la fin.

Le 9 Octobre, je suis parti du bas du Détroit et suis venu coucher à la *Pointe Pellé*. Pendant la traversée du lac Érié, il ne nous est rien arrivé qui mérite attention. Je suis arrivé à Niagara le 19, où j'ai été arrêté pendant trois jours de mauvais temps.

Le 22, je suis parti de Niagara par le Sud du lac Ontario pour me rendre au fort Frontenac. J'ay mis quatorze jours à passer ce lac, dans lequel j'ay eu plusieurs canots de cassés par l'impétuosité des vents, et je suis arrivé le 6 Novembre audit fort.

Novembre. — Je suis parti du fort Frontenac. Je passai à l'établissement de M. Piquet. J'avois reçu ordre de M. le Marquis de La Galissonière de voir l'augmentation qu'il y auroit faite pendant mon voyage. Je n'ay pas trouvé plus de désert, que lorsque j'y suis passé au commencement de Juillet. Son fort avoit été brûlé depuis son départ pour Montréal par les Sauvages, que l'on juge avoir été envoyés par les Anglois de Choueguen; une grande plaine de foin a esté brûlée aussy, et l'espèce de redoute, qui est dans l'angle d'un bastion, a esté sauvée, quoique le feu y ait été mis à plusieurs reprises. Il n'y avoit que trois hommes à la garde de ce fort, dont l'un a eu le bras emporté par un fusil, qui s'est crevé dans ses mains en tirant sur ceux qui mettoient le feu. Je m'informai si l'on avoit connoissance de la nation qui avoit fait cette entreprise : l'on me dit que c'étoient deux Goyogouins, qui avoient passé l'été avec M. Piquet et qui avoient esté payés des Anglois pour lui enlever son nègre. Je partis et vins coucher au bas du Rapide Plat.

Le 9 Novembre, je suis arrivé à Montréal, où j'ay resté deux jours; j'ay descendu à Québec pour rendre compte à M. le marquis de La Jonquière de mon voyage.

J'ay esté assez heureux, malgré les fatigues de la campagne et la mauvaise chère et la quantité de malades, pour ne perdre qu'un homme, qui s'est noyé dans le naufrage de M. de Joncaire.

A l'estime du Père Bonnecamp, Jésuite et grand mathématicien, lequel a donné une extrême attention à la route, le voyage est de 1,200 lieues; à la mienne et à celle de MM. les officiers du détachement, elle est de plus. Tout ce que je puis dire, c'est que les nations de ces endroits sont très mal disposées pour les François et dévouées entièrement à l'Anglois. Je ne sçay par quelle voye on pourra les ramener. Si l'on employe la violence, ils seront avertis et prendront la fuite. Ils ont un grand azile chez les Testes plates, dont ils ne sont pas beaucoup éloignés. Si l'on y envoye en commerce, nos négocians ne pourront jamais donner nos marchandises aux prix de l'Anglois par la quantité de frais qu'ils seront obligés de faire. D'ailleurs je pense qu'il seroit dangereux de faire une condition plus douce aux Nations qui habitent la Belle Rivière que dans les autres postes du Détroit, Miamis et autres. Ce seroit dépeupler nos anciens postes et perpétuer les nations dans la Belle Rivière, et qui sont à la portée des gouvernemens anglois.

L'on y a cependant envoyé ces années dernières, mais il y avoit moins d'Anglois, et ils n'étoient pas accrédités comme ils le sont aujourd'hui, et, si les commerçans françois veulent dire la vérité, ils conviendront que leurs profits ne provenoient que du commerce qu'ils faisoient avec l'Anglois par

l'échange des pelleteries. Les chats, loutres et pécans sont à très bas prix en Angleterre, et chez nous ils sont très hauts ; aussy n'a-t-on vu venir de cet endroit que de ces pelleteries, et non du castor. Il est donné en échange aux Anglois.

Un établissement solide pourroit être utile à la colonie, mais il y a bien des inconvéniens pour le soutenir, par les difficultés du chemin pour faire le transport des vivres et effets convenables. Je doute que l'on y puisse parvenir qu'en faisant une extrême dépense. Je me crois obligé, par la connoissance que j'ay prise de tous ces endroits, de mettre ces réflexions à la fin de mon journal, desquelles on fera tel usage que l'on jugera à propos.

Signé : Celoron.

Copie de la sommation faite aux Anglois de la Belle Rivière.

Nous Céloron, capitaine, chevalier de l'Ordre royal et militaire de Saint-Louis, commandant un détachement envoyé par M. le marquis de La Galissonière, commandant général de la Nouvelle France, avons sommé des négocians anglois qui traitoient dans un village sauvage situé sur la Belle Rivière de se retirer dans leur pays avec leurs effets et bagages, sous peine d'être traités comme interlopes en cas de refus. A laquelle sommation ont répondu lesdits Anglois qu'ils alloient se retirer dans leur pays avec leurs effets.

Fait dans notre camp de la Belle Rivière.

Pour copie,

Signé : De La Jonquière.

VIII

LES FRANÇAIS

DEVRAIENT ÉTABLIR UN OU PLUSIEURS POSTES DE COMMERCE SUR L'OHIO OU DANS LES ENVIRONS, SURTOUT VERS LA SOURCE DE CE FLEUVE.

Extrait d'une lettre de M. de La Jonquière au Ministre de la Marine.

Québec, le 20 Septembre 1749.

Dans l'instant que j'eus reçu la lettre que vous me fîtes l'honneur de m'écrire, le 4 May, au sujet de la *nation des Sauvages qui s'est retirée à Sonioto,* j'écrivis à M. de Vaudreuil, gouverneur de la Louisiane, pour le prévenir que je donnerois tous mes soins pour réunir ces Sauvages au reste de leur nation et que j'agirois de concert avec luy; je laissai ma lettre en France, et vraisemblablement qu'elle luy est parvenue. J'ai communiqué votre lettre à M. le marquis de La Galissonière; il m'a dit que le détachement de M. de Céloron opéreroit vraisemblablement cette réunion, au moins pour un temps, mais que pour faire quelque chose de solide, *il faudroit que nous établissions un ou plusieurs postes de commerce sur la Belle Rivière ou dans les environs, et surtout vers sa source.* Ces postes pourroient avoir l'inconvénient de la facilité de la contrebande; il juge cependant qu'on en doit courir les risques, parce que sans cela les Anglois s'y établiroient infailliblement, *et seroient par là* en état de pénétrer dans tous nos postes de traite et de couper notre

Memorandum. at Council held. the 9th of August
Canassatego. Speaker about 36 Indians

Brother Tharaxt. you told us Last night that you called
upon our Sons to Philad. & as impudent and Said
that we Brought so many of our allies & Cousins with
us. and so forth.
We Let you know that when ever we the Chiefs of the
United Nations goes to our Brethren the white people
we allways invite them to accompany us and Like
wise with us be it to hunting or some thing and we have
allways done so when we want to Philad. and never
have been reprimanded for it after this manner perhaps
it is because you got all our Lands that you wanted
from us and you dont Like to see us any more and
Consequently our fate is the same as our Cousins the
Delawares & Mohickans. we asked for nothing
But you say we must not Expect presents no more
our Belly full of victuals becaus we are so
Numerous. We therefore will return to our own
Country and give over going to Philadelphia. and
we will not trouble our Brethren in
Philad. now you again to part with our Cousins and
allies the Shawanos Delawares & Mohickans also
the Tuskaroes we can not now since they Came to
live. Consider therefore and Let us know what you
mean of the whole
is what you said to us according to the Instruction you
have from the Governor & our Brethren in Philadelphia
you need say no more. or is it your own Mouth as
word of advise then say.
I made answer that it was my own Mouth as a word
of advise to them. and that I had received no Instruction

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as yet from their Brethren in Philadelphia
that this was ye first time I advised them
if they approved of my advice well & good if ye
it was well & good again as to what belonged to me

1749 a Discourse with the
Indians Counsel at my own house

News of the French men coming down, some malicious persons made it their business to insinuate, that not one farthing would be paid by the Assembly, so that I was forced to engage for His Excellency for the payment

By this you will observe the absolute necessity of your advice & assistance at this Critical Juncture, for in short they can not make a Council (Coll Moore & ye Mayor being both ill), and consequently all business it at a Stand, & must remain in that state till we have th pleasure of your good Company

Col^l^ Johnson wrote his Excellency word ꝑ Capt Stoddard that a Number of Sachems were coming down to Mount Johnson, but could not tell what was ye occasion, & thinking it is to enquire the purport of this Embassy. I feer they will not be perswaded to do their Business at Coll Johnsons but come forward if so it will be most materially necessary for you to attend as soon as possible for I do assure you I believe you was never more wanted, for I have reasons to think the Faction are determined to obstruct all his measures & make him uneasy in everything they can

The Sleigh with Dinner is gone in & I undressed so that I have only the pleasure to congratulate you on your Son John's being appointed Clerk of the City & County & Common pleas for Albany during pleasure with power to appoint a Deputy & am in one word your most obedient humble Servt & sincere Friend

J Ayscough

P S Compliments to Captn Clinton
& all the good Family

Cadwallader Colden to Governor George Clinton

[Copy]

Coldengham Feb^ry^ 19th 1748/9

I was very agreably surprised with the sight of Captn Clinton this day sevennight which the season of the year

had taken all hopes from me but if I had known of his coming I must have been in pain on account of the ice at this season of the year when one day it bears horses & the next a man on foot cannot pass We have had the last week so much cold weather that I hope nothing of thaw can prevent his safe return to New York especially as he is not to pass Hudson's River on the ice The cold is indeed so severe that I cannot be one hour in it much less to bear it a whole day & believe Captn Clinton will satisfy your Excellency that it is not practicable for me to travil by land. I shall wait on your Excellency as soon as the season will permit me to do it by Water which I hope now by the weather's beginning to change may be in a fortnight at furthest I hope there is nothing at this time to give your Excellency uneasiness in the administration When I wrote by the express I had receiv'd an opinion that the Govr of Canada had sent back our prisoners in which case I suspected your Excell^{y} might be under difficulty in recovering the French Prisoners from our Indians But I am since inform'd that it is otherwise that the Govr of Canada detains our Prisoners At present matters are only in Negociation in which I think you may trust Mr Rutherfurd as he is no way engaged in the Faction or in the designs to distress your Excellency but otherwise as I know no particulars I can only make general observations 1 By the Treaty of Peace no doubt the prisoners on both sides are released & the Govr of Canada's refusing to release our prisoners & detaining them in his hands may give a just excuse for your Excellency's delay in taking the French prisoners out of the hands of the Indians especially as he keep our Indians in close confinement That the Policy of the French is to create a Jealousy between us & the Six Nations & for that purpose will indeavour by all means to carry them to Canada to treat for the release of their prisoners This has been the constant practise of the French in Canada at ye end of every war 2 In order to defeat these designs of the French which evidently affect the Interest of Great Brittain every reasonable thing

must be done to please the six Nations & to prevent their going to Canada 3 Your Excellency in all publick treaties will consider the Interest of the Nation in general more than of this Province in particular & much more than the Sollicitations of private persons & litle clamours which may be made in that account I am told that when Oliver was at Esopus he gave out that the Assembly was to be disolv'd & sollicited the Election of particular persons He brought up all the songs & faction papers with him read them in the tavern & talked as he used to do but so far as I can learn he cannot value himself on any success he has had in this part of the Province I know not what has put the apprehensions of a Dissolution into their heads unless they find (as is given out) that their interest lessens in the City of New York If there were reason to hope that one man in the city could be removed & another in Queens County I would hold up both hands for a Dissolution Nay if we were sure of hearty strugle in the City tho nothing should be carried I should not be displeased with it because this would shew that the minds of the people are not so generally affected in the manner they give out. & the opposition to the faction would probably afterwards increase

I must again thank your Excellency for your kind remembrance of me on the occasion of Mr Livingston's Death repeated to me by your son It gives me the strongest proof of your Excellency's Friendship & thereby lays the strongest obligation on me as well as it gives me satisfaction in my past behaviour & incouragement to proceed in my indeavours to serve your Excell^{y} I wrote by the express of all that I think can be don properly at this time I then mention'd to your Excell^{y} that it may be necessary to come to some resolution speedily as to the office of Clerk because all the promises in that County I suspect must stop on the Death of the Clerk because till another is apointed & I think it no way adviseable for me to write to any of my friends on this subject till I know your Excellency's final resolutions If your Excellency resolve in favour of my son please to let him know

it & then he will advise with Mr Nicholls & Mr Alexander in pursuance of the directions I have given him.

Mr Hausbrook came to my house the other day & gave me the inclosed list for Judges & Justices in this County I have no objection to any person named & I believe his past behaviour will incline your Excellv to oblige him.

From Peter Collinson

Feby 24 1748

It gave mee pleasure to hear from my Dear frd C: Colden by his favour of Fr: 17: 1748

As yet no remittances has been made when they come to my hands I shall keep them for your order

I am glad Mr Kalm has been with you you'l find Him an indefatigable Ingenious Man pray tell Him I do not take kindly his not giving mee a Line

I shall be glad of your Continueing Govr Clintons assistant may Contribute to Yours & your Familys advantages—be sure make Hay while the Sun Shines—for another King may Rise up that knew not Joseph

I find of the Tenn Indian Historys I have sent you Six by Sundry Conveyances So if you have had but Two some must have miscarried One is Left wch I Intended to Send now but forgot It 3 I disposed off here one to myself one to Docr Mitchell & 1 to Doc Gronovius

Your Sons bill is accepted if He will Draw on Mr Guerin from Time to Time I will gett it received from Him & repay it to his order Your Engaging anew in publick affairs will prevent your Botanic Inquiries So don't trouble your self about mee any Seeds of Wild Specious plants that grows round the neighbourhood of Coldenham are Sufficient for mee or any Tree or flowering Shrub that Strikes your own Fancy either from the Beauty of its Flower or the prettyness of its Fruit

said, & this Affirmant accompanyed them thither, & there the said Suit and Difference was Settled and Accommodated, and the said Robert Mitchel, not only agreed to give the said Joseph England, a Bond in Satisfaction for his Damages, but also to give him the said Joseph England, peaceable Possession of the part of the Plantation, which he the said Mitchell had intruded upon as aforesaid, & the said Joseph England consented that the said Mitchel, with his Family, might continue to reside upon the said Plantation 'till the Fall, or he coud provide himself with another Place, but was not by the said Agreement to stay any longer on the said Plantation till this Spring. That the said Robert Mitchel, did thereupon voluntarily, and in a quiet, peaceable manner, (without being any ways compelled thereto, by the said William Hay or Joseph England,) surrender and give up the possession of that part of the said Plantation, whereupon the said Mitchel then lived with his Family to the said Joseph England, who then consented to permit the said Mitchel to continue thereon as aforesaid. That the said Affirmant was present during all the said Transaction between the said Hay, Joseph England & Robert Mitchel, but had then no property or Interest in the said Plantation, or any part thereof, save that this affirmant then Rented the said Plantation as Tenant to his Father.

SAMUEL ENGLAND.

Done at Philadelphia.
Before me,
CHAS. WILLING, Mayor.

Indorsed—Affirmation of Sam[l] England.

DEPOSITION OF JEREMIAH BROWN, 1749.

The Affidavit of Jeremiah Brown, aged Sixty Years, taken before me, one of the Justices of the Peace for the County of Chester, Concerning the Settlement of that Tract of Land in the Possession of Joseph England, Late Deceas'd.

This Affirmant, on his Solemn affirmation Saith, that about A. D. 1706 or 7, James Brown, his father, bought a Small Improvement from John Hance-Steelman, made on that Tract of Land where Joseph England Lived, (without a Right either from Mary-land or Pennsylvania, as he Supposes,) and that his Father, the said James Brown, had the same in Possession, and under Culture untill about A. D. 1713, at which time he, the said James Brown, Bequeathed the said Right of Improvem[t] to his Son William Brown, Brother to

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V. p. 382-9, also letter of Jno. Churchman, p. 19 of this volume.

this affirmant, who did Enjoy and Peaceably possess the same; and about that time the said William Brown got a survey made thereon by Thomas Pierson, a Surveyor of Chester County; and in A. D. 1716, the said William Brown, Deceas'd and left his Widow in Possession; and Esther Brown, the said Widow, about A. D. 1720, did make Sale of the said Improvement or Plantation to Benjamin Vining, of the City of Philadelphia, who, about A. D. 1723, Sold the same to Joseph England, abovementioned, who ever since that time had the s[d] Tract in Possession, and Paid Lott & Scott to Pennsylvania, and doth not know that ever any of the former Possessors Paid any Tax or Service to the Province of Maryland; and further saith not.

JEREMIAH BROWN.

Affirmed before me this 26th Day of the Second month, call'd April, 1749.

ELISHA GATCHELL.

Conrad Weiser to Gov. H., 1749.

Sir:

By these lines I let you Know that I returned from Shomokin on the 18 of this Instant. I happened to meet the Eldest and youngest Son of Shickelimy at the trading house of Thomas McKee, about 20 miles this side of Shomokin, b, whom I was informed that all the Indians had left Shomokin for this present time, because for want of provision, so I thought best to deliver my message there to the Sons of Shickelimy; there was three more of the Six nation Indians, one of them was *Toganogon*, a noted man among the Cayuckers. All what I had to do was to let the Children and grand Children of our deceased friend, Shickelimy, know that the Governor of Pensilvania & his Council Condoled with them for the death of their father, which I did accordingly, and gave them a Small present in order to wipe off their tears according to the Custom of the Indians; the present consisted of six Strowd Matchcoats and seven Shirts, with a string of Wampum; after this was over, I gave another string of Wampum to *Taghneghdoarus*, Shickelimy's Eldest son, and desired him to take upon him the Care of a Chief in the stead of his deceased father, and to be our true Corespondent untill there should be a meeting between the Governor of Pensilvania and some of the Six nation Chiefs, and then he should be recommended by the Governor to the Six nation Chiefs and Confirmed, If he would follow the foot steps of his deceased father. He accepted thereof, and I sent a string of Wampum by Toganogon, (who was then seting out for Cayuckquo,)

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V. p. 383–389.

to Onantago, to let the Counsel of the Six nation Know of Shickelimy's death and my transaction by order of the Governor. There was a necessity for my so doing; the Indians are very uneasy about the white people's Setling beyond the Endless mountains on Joniady, on Sherman's Creek and Else where; they tell me that above 30 familys are setled upon the Indians' land this spring, and dayly more goes to setle thereon; some have setled all most to the heads of Joniady River along the path that leads to Ohio; the Indian says, (and that with truth,) that that Country is their only Hunting ground for dears, because further to the nord there was nothing but Spruce woods and the ground Covered with palm prushes, not a single dear Could be found or killed there; they asked me very Seriously, whether their Brother Onas had given the people leave to setle there. I Informed them of the Contrary, and told them that I Belieft some of the Indians from Ohio, that were down last Sumer, had given liberty (with what right I could not tell) to setle; I told them of what passed on the Tuscarora path last Sumer when the Sheriff and three Magistrates were sent to turn of the people then Setled, and that I then perceived that the people were favoured by some of the Indians above mention^{d}, by which means the orders of the Governor Came to no Effect; so farr they were Content, and said that the thing must lie as it is till the Six nation Chiefs would be down and converse with the Governor of Pensilvania about the affair. I have nothing Else to add, but remain,

Sir, your very obedient,

CONRAD WEISER.

Heidleberg, Aprill the 22, 1749.

A list of the present I bought of Thomas McKee for the family of Shickelimy, deceased:

	£	s.	d.
To 6 Stroud Matchcoats at 25 a piece,	7	10	00
To 7 Shirts,	3	10	00
To Sundry small things,	00	15	00
To three strings of Wampum I gave, all the three strings amounted to 1500, at five shillings per hundred,	3	15	00
Total,	£15	10	00

Jno. Churchman to R. Peters, 1749.

Friend Peters:

What I Certified Concerning the time the Survey was made on that tract of Land Posses'd by Joseph England, was by the best Information I Could then get, & do believe the Error as to time is on my Side, because I have now had a Certificate of a Survey, produced by Jeremiah Brown, from under Thomas Pearson's own hand, of a Tract which Pearson Surveyed on or Near the same day with the above Mentioned; as Jeremiah Brown seems positive, it is probable that the Conveyance of that Land by Esther, the Widow of William Brown, to Benjamin Vining, was Ruled as to Course & Distance by Thomas Pearson's Survey & Certificate thereof, but now it cannot be found. As to Old John Dawson, I think he was Imposed on by the Marylanders; in his Examination he gave the Enclosed affidavit, in a free, Intelligent manner, which was passed from his mouth without Striving to Wrest an Expression, or putting words in his mouth.

As Hance Steelman was a Marylander, who made the first small Improvement where Joseph England lived by virtue of his own pleasure, the same might therefrom be called Maryland; when James Brown bought the same, no doubt he Intended to hold the same as Pennsylvania, the same Joyning to a Lot of Nottingham in his possession, but no certain Intelligence can yet be had that the said Land was Entered in Either Pennsylvania or Maryland.

To Speak my own Opinion freely, I take the Case to be thus, when James Brown had the Land, & when his Son William first possessed it, it was Intended to be held under Pennsylvania; but the said William Brown being a dealing Man, and his Trading Chiefly towards Maryland, he Chose to stand Neuture in his possession, or perhaps, Rather Inclined toward Maryland, because there was about that time great Threatening to Ceize the produce of our Province, something whereof was Indeed put in Execution by the Marylanders, particularly on a Considerable Quantity of Malt belonging to old William Brown, Brother to James Brown afores[d]; at another time, a Considerable Quantity of both Wheat & flower belonging to Elisha Gatchell, also some Barrels of flower belonging to Samuel Litler, also some Tobacco of Joseph Hainses.

When Joseph England Possesed the Land, he liking the Constitution of our province best, Chose to hold under Pennsylvania, being Near a Mile to the North of the East Line from the Mouth of Octararo, but was liked None the better therefore by his Maryland Neighbours; and the said Joseph England being a Man in Considerable Business, & often from whom, & holding his Land under a Slender Title, a particular Neighbour of his took Advantage thereof, in the first place by purchasing John Lackland's Right of Tenantsnip, & thereby took possession of that part of the said five hundred Acres, and without all Question paid Suit and Service to Maryland.

Therefore, In the said Joseph England's Absence made another small Incursion & Raised a Log House or Cabin where Mary McGladen lives, Took possesion thereof & held under Maryland to Strengthen the Title, & Its probable the Tenants have paid Suit & Service Ever since to the province of Maryland; and the borders being in some Confusion for want of a setled Boundaries, some other persons holding under Pennsylvania, being greedy to enlarge their Claims Cleared some other Part of the said five hundred Acres which Lay Convenient to their Plantations & Inclosed the same and so have kept Possession thereof, & most thereof before A. D. 1737, Hinted at, in the return of the Warrant granted to Joseph England, 12th, 9th br, 1747.

As to the Depositions of Robert Mitchell & Robert McFadons, so far as they Relate to William Hey, Sub Sheriff of our County, in making that Arrest & giving Joseph England Possession, are Realy True, it was done Privately & has given great uneasyness to Every well Disposed Person to the Peace of the Province, & generally Accounted as an Imprudent, dangerous Action.

Wee being Present, & Concerned in Examining into the above Particulars, do, as believing the above to be true, Subscribe our hands.

ELISHA GATCHELL,
JNO. CHURCHMAN,
JOSEPH HAINES,
MORDECAI JAMES.

2nd mo. 26th, 1749.

P. S. Samel England has not yet accepted of a Lease.*

Indorsed.
Jun. Churchman's Report.

Extracts of Letters from Albany, 1749.

An exact Extract of the Letter written at Albany, July 29th, O. S, 1748, by Master Shirley, Governour of Boston, to the Marquis de La Gallisoniere, Governour Genl of New France.

. . . . . the Indians of the Six Nations, who have been under his Majesty's Protection ever since the first settlemt of the English in North America, & considered as Vassals of the Crown of Great Britain. . . . . .

. . . . . as those Indians are the King our Master's Vassals & Engaged in this War.

. . . . . and in the Letter of Mr Clinton, New York, 24th May, . . . the Six Nations Subjects to his Majesty. . . .

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V. p. 377, 384–389.

This Extract has been carefully, and word for word drawn out from the abovementioned Letters by me, one of his Majᵗʸ Supreme Council of Quebec, the 4th 9ber, O. S. 1748, in Quebec.

PERTHUIER.

Rolland Michel Barrin Chevalier Marquis de La Galissoniere, Chevalier de L' ordre Militaire de Sᵗ Louis, Capitaine des Vaisseaux du Roy Commandant général pour sa Majesté en toute La Nouvelle France, terres et province de La Louisiane.

Francois Bigot, Chevalier Conseiller du Roy En Ses Conseilles Intendant de Justice, Police finances et de La Marine, &c. Certifions a tous qu'il appartiendra que Le Sᵗ Perthuis, Counseiller au Conseil Superieur de Quebec a Signé L'Extrait de L'autre part, et que foy doit Estre ajouteé a Sa Signature. Entemoin dequoy Nous avons Signé et fait Contresigner ces Présentes par L'oy de nos Secretaires et a Jecellier fait apposer Le Cachet de nos armes, Fait a Quebec Le 7th 9bre, 1748, La Galissoniere.

[L. S.] [L. S.] BIGOT.

Par Monseigneur PAUTRIVES.

Par Monseigneur DENHEMEUR.

Extract of a Letter to His Excellʸ Govʳ Clinton, from Collᵗ Wm. Johnson, Dated the 28th April, 1749.

I must acquaint your Excellʸ that the Inclosed Extract of your & Govʳ Shirley's Letter, (in the Malicious Manner the French represented it to some of the five Nations who went there last Fall,) had Caused a great deal of uneasiness among the Indians, telling them that you & Govʳ Shirley by your Letters, looked upon them as Slaves or Dogs to the English, & sevᵗ other confounded wicked things they had Infused into the Indian's heads, among the rest begged of them to be watchful & on their Guard, that the English were Determined the first Opportunity to Destroy them all. I assure your Excellʸ I had hard work to beat these, & sevᵗ other cursed Villanous things told them by the French, out of their heads, & make them easy. there are sevᵗ Cannoes of Goods sent already to the five Nations by the French, & more expected Daily, so that they are now Endeavouring all they can at any Rate, to gain the friendship of the five Nations.

WM. JOHNSON.

66.

1

Rép.

Cr. am. Letr. de Bajonguiere

N

a Marly le 4. May 1749.

Je reponds aux Lettres de mr. le Cte de Chabanis en date du 24. 7bre 23. 8bre et 8. 9bre derniers concernant les Sauvages

Sur la premiere de ces Lettres jl a rendu compte de ce qui regarde les Chaouanons; car il observa que la defiance de mr. de l'antigyatie que la plupart des autres nations ont pour eux les avoit determinés a se partager en deux bandes dont l'une s'en etablie a fort Detroit ou elle forme une espece de republique avec un assez grand nombre de mauvais sujets de differentes nations qui s'y sont retirés, et l'autre a pris le party de s'en aller du coté des Cheraquis.

Sur la Lettre de mr. de Vaudreuil Gouverneur de la Louisiane on a appris que cette derniere bande apres avoir remonté une partie de la riviere des Cheraquis s'etoit determinée a aller joindre les Alibamons ou jl paroissoit qu'elle se comportoit bien; depuis cette nouvelle qu'elle avoit eu avec les Illinois avoit été terminée; ce dont il y a lieu de juger qu'on n'a rien a craindre de ces sauvages

Jl n'en est pas tout a fait de meme de celle qui s'est retirée a Detroit. jl en a a craindre en effet quelque mauvais exemple des sauvages qui la fomentoient avec elle et dont les Srs de la nouvelle York s'etoient fondamentalement pour soulever les nations en guerre contre les françois n'entraine cette bande a quelque mauvais parti; et jl seroit par cette raison fort a desirer que l'on pouvoit la reünir au reste de la nation soit en Canada ou a la Louisiane. C'est une negociation sur laquelle jl convient que vous vous etiés entendu avec mr. de Vaudreuil. cette nation par sa valeur et sa docilité seroit

vraies gloires Vitis. mais pour les ramener il faut
y employer a portée de pouvoir les pousser la bonne
ca de la protager contre les autres nations qui voudroient
l'y inquieter. c'est un arrangement qui rige des Scrupules
particuliers de votre part.
Juand a l'espece de republique qui s'en formé assurément
Si vous jugiez a propos de les chasser alaguere,
elle se trouveroit affoiblie au point de n'en avoir plus rien
a craindre. Cependant, Sultan a fort approuvé la party
qu'a pris M. le Cte Dehalgalliniere d'envoyer aupres de la
Porte que l'ji continuais de rendre des services aux Français
La longueur pour faire faire des punitions sur les Grecs
ji l'en voyageois du coté de la Calabre; ce ji jalousie
croire que cela la contiendra.
Sur la Lettre du 23. dre M. Dehalgalliniere
a rendu compte de ce qui s'est passé de la part de la
plus part des nations des pays d'enhaut qui a
l'instigation des anglois s'etoient emportés a assassiner
plusieurs Français, en dispart qu'il a pris d'envoyer en
Detroit en a micchilimakinac de gros detachemens dans
les voyages Iroquois pour les diffuser Partout. S. M. a
été fort aise d'apprendre le bon effet qu'avoient produit
la presence de ces detachemens. elle a d'ailleurs été
très satisfaite de la bonne conduite du Sr. Desp. Pierre
Cayuga commandant a micchilimakinac qui par la
fermeté exemplaire a obligé les nations alentours
de mettre bas les armes et de rendre les prisonniers
des Français et a ramener toutes les nations sauvages
a demander grace. les Sr. et Cesse de Longueuil pouvoit
également bien suffire au Detroit. mais je m'assure
que les meurtriers seront punis a l'avenir. elle

Leur punition aurait prouvé un exemple frappant aux Sauvages; ce n'est pas sentir, sans doute, par les ménagements que vous devez garder avec l'Angleterre, combien il est nécessaire d'en faire un prompt exemple à l'égard de ceux dont la dépravation est manifeste ou équivoque. En général, vous trouverez les officiers disposés à terminer les querelles avec les Sauvages par la voie de la conciliation; mais je suis certain, en l'exposant à l'a dans tous les temps, justifié, qu'une négligence aux contenir que par des exemples de sévérité bien placés; ainsi vous ne devez point négliger la moindre occasion d'en donner.

J'ai vu par la lettre du 8 8bre que M. de Salaberry informe de l'arrivée des cinq nations iroquoises à Québec à l'exception de celle des Onnois Cayuga dont les premiers avaient pris parti pour les anglois. S. M. n'a pu qu'approuver la conduite de M. Dehaldimand envers ces Sauvages, et vous ajouterez qu'il a été question dans leurs conférences de la prétention des anglois tant sur eux que sur leurs terres. Ils regardent ces terres comme faisant partie de leurs possessions et les Iroquois comme Sujets de la grande Bretagne. Les Sauvages prétendent encore effectivement jouir de toutes les nations, en leurs terres leur appartenant immédiatement. Dans toute la guerre ils se sont révoltés contre la prétention des anglois. Mr. le Gl. Dehaldimand savait bien les avoir déterminés à soutenir leurs droits; et il y a lieu de croire qu'ils se sont portés avec d'autant plus de chaleur qu'on leur avait déclaré que depuis peu ils avaient

Haïti leur la anglais d'orange ville Port-au-Prince avec les
anglais. Vu les sauvages attiennent encore aujourd'hui leur
dernier dernier service, vous serez informé de la
suite de ceux qui se sera passé avec eux dernier
dernier. Il y a apparence que vous les verrez venir cette
cette année. Vous entes déjà informé à leurs vœux
qui tendent à se maintenir dans la neutralité
que depuis longtemps font la base de leur politique
mais si est l'unanime de ceux qui se sera passé entre eux
et les anglais un pouvoir les déterminer à abandonner la
partie de ces voisins qui sont leurs terres, et devenir
de leur un service utile à nous égards.

Sur rapport aux amis, depuis mesure qu'on les
chefs de cette affaire sont ici, ils n'ont plus entrepris aucune
faire de jalousie contre les français. Leurs forces avaient
demandé leur grâce, ils y a apparence qu'ils ne
La pacification sera aussi bientôt entière, et
sera avec de vous rendre tous par rapport aux
sauvages. Qu'à l'égard de tous les autres, suivant les
circonstances. Mr. ne pense que l'on rapportera
toute prudence dans cette partie si entière à votre
administration. J'ai ordre de vous dire que vous arrêtiez
autant que vous pourrez, toutes les altercations qui
pourraient avoir lieu entre les sujets, et occasionner des
plaintes de part et d'autre.

Je suis

Mr

Petition of Inhabitants near Digges's Choice, 1749.

To the right Honourable James Hamilton, Esquire, Lewtenant Governour of the three Lower Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex upon Delaware, and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pensilvania.

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of Little Connevago, in in the County of Lancaster, on the west Side of Susquenanna, Complaining, Shew unto your Lordship, that they Live adjoyning to a Certain Tract of Land Belonging to John Diggs, which Said Tract Contains Six thousand eight Hundred and twenty-two Acres & a half, which Said Tract he holds by a Maryland right, and your Petitioners further Shew, that ye Said Diggs now Claims three thousand Acres More by Vertue of a re-Survey, on which late Survey your Petitioners are now living on, and have Warrants for their respective Tracts in this Province, and had the Same Laid out Accordingly, Notwithstanding which, Said Diggs Daily threatens to Sue them, unless they pay him a hundred pound Maryland Currency ℔ Hundred, or Pass their Bonds for the Same, bearing Interest from the date, wch said Bonds he would directly Send to Squire Carroll & Squire Dullany, to whom the Said Diggs has Mortgaged all his Concerns in this Province, Now Your Petitioners Shew, that they are under a great Concern and Daily terror lest they Should be Carried into Maryland, and there Confined, being Sensible of the Ill Usage they would meet with there, and the Vast Expences that would Accrew. Wherefore your Petitioners most Humbly request that you will use Some speedy Means for their relief, or otherwise they will be oblidged to quit their Plantations, and they as in Duty bound will always pray.

Signed by Hendrick Seller, and 13 other names badly written.

Indorsed.—Petition against Mr Digges of Maryland, for extending his Claims beyond his Patent.

Presented at Newcastle, 10th May, 1749.

Gov. Clinton to Gov. Hamilton, 1749.

Fort George, May 22^d^, 1749.

S^r^.

Your Honour will perceive from the enclosed extracts of Coll. Johnson's Letter* to me, and of a paper which the Governour of Canada had sent among the Indians, what artifices he is useing now at the Commencement of the Peace, to infuse Jealousies among them of the English, and to withdraw their Affections from us; I have ordered our Interpreter to go to Oswego with presents & Instruc-

* See page 26.

tions, not only to confirm the five Nations in their Fidelity to the Crown of Great Britain, But likewise to fix the Missisagues, & other Nations to the Westward in their Alliance with us, which may be of the greatest Service to the British Colonies in case of any future War with France, and also in the Brittish Commerce with all the Indians to the Westward. And as we have gained a considerable Influence over these Nations to the Westward, & who before knew little of the English, while the French have at the same time lost theirs. We ought I think, not to be negligent in useing all the means in our power to preserve these advantages, which we have got. I shall be well pleased with every information or advice which your Honour shall think proper to give me for this purpose. And as your Traders go among the Indian Nations to the Westward, I do not doubt you will take care to employ the means you may have thereby of promoting the Brittish Interest among them, and of defeating the Designs of the French.

I am with great Regard
Sir
Your most obedient
humble servant,
G. CLINTON.

To His Honour Govr Hamilton.

Indorsed.

Letter from Govr Clinton, dated 22^d May, 1749.
Read in Council, 3^d June, 1749.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Marshall, dated Albany, 23^d June, 1749.

Hon^d S^r

I take this opertunity to let you know that I received the inclosed Letter from the Commander of Crown Point this Morning, & the Sergeant & five Men go away to-morrow. I thought it was proper to let the Officer know that I received his letter, I send your Excellency a Copy of mine to him, which I hope you won't disapprove of, and as the Sergeant told me that Peace was not proclaimed in Canada, and as I had a proclamation by me I sent it inclosed to the Officer at Crown Point, in asking the Serjeant several questions, I desired to know which way he thought those six Indians were gone, he told me, he thought they went Schaghkoeke way, if so, it is thought they will cut off some People there, which if they do, every body that has lately settled, will leave their Farms again. These two New England Men that came with this Sergeant & Party told me, they saw an Army of near a Thousand Men march in different bodys from Canada, this day three weeks steering their way for Bellé Rivier, the back of Philadelphia, in order to prevent the English from settling

TO GEORGE CLINTON

Contemporary Copy[1]

Albany, June. 28th. 1749 —

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLY.

Upon the Rect. of yours Dated June the 7th. I immediately called both the Castles of the Mohawks together, & again intreated them earnestly not to Interfere in the Exchange or Redemption of their Prisoners, but leave it intirely to you, & in order to Enable you to accomplish it, insisted on their Delivering up to me all the French still remaining in their hands, which at length by much ado they agreed to upon paying them considerable rewards which I was obliged to do, e'er I could get them out of their Hands. Indeed it is more than ever Expected that they would part with them all at any rate. they had sevl. Invitations to go to Canada, & among the rest a very strong one from Nichus the Sachim in Goal, & all the rest to come, if they had any regard for them, seeing your Excellency's Endeavours were to no purpose hitherto. this Message with a Belt of Wampum had so great a Weight & touched the five Nations in Genl. so much, that they Determined to send so many of each Nation to Canada immediately, & among the rest sevl. of the Chiefs of the Two Castles of the Mohawks, with Nichus's Wife & Family, which would have been all the French Governour could desire, & what he has this long time been Endeavouring to bring about, with all the Policy he was Master of; but I can with great Pleasure acquaint your Excelly. that I have overset all his Schemes, by preventing them from going to him, & by getting all the Prisoners intirely out of their hands being 19 in all so that there remains nothing here to be done more, wherefore hope & beg your Excelly. will Endeavour as soon as possible to get the Indians from theme with the rest, otherwise it will intirely overset all that I have done hitherto, &

[1] In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

make the Indians very ill Tempered, to say no more, as they have so long left it to us.

I am

your Excellyˢ.
most Obedt. hble Servt.
Wᴹ: JOHNSON

To
His Excellʸ. Govᴿ. CLINTON

FROM BENJAMIN STODDERT

A. L. S.[1]

Oswego July yᵉ: 2ᵈ: 1749

Dᴿ SIR/

There has been but little Trade since my last therefore cant write you on that Head, tho have heard that my french Merchants are a Trading among the Ottawawa's and presume on their return they will call on me with their returns &c &c

We have various reports here of an Army gone to Ohio some making it very Numerous others but a few so that we cant tell which to confide in tho' its beyond doubt that therir is one of some sort, as it has been told here by several Indians both Cocknawagers and others; and by a Sechem from Onandauga who came here this Day we have the following Accᵗ. wᶜʰ. he says he had from some Indians from Canada (Viz) That the french had spoke to the Fighters of the Cocknawagers with a Belt of Wampon for their assistance, but were refused by them, and they then Applyed to the Sechems for their Interest with the Young Men but they refused them also and told them they had been a great while a fighting for them and as it was now a Peace they would not take up the Hatchett again &c &c and he says they were also refused in the like manner by several Other Indians who they Applyed to for Assistance, and that they had in all but Six Indians that Joined

[1] In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Govern.r Hamelton's 30 June
Answer to mine of Sept.r 28th
the 28th June 1749

Sir

Philad.a June 30.th 1749

I have the Honour of your Letter of the 28.th instant, inclosing an extract of Captain Marshall's to your Excellency, upon the motions of the French & Indians of Canada; and think myself obliged to return you my hearty thanks for the early intelligence you have been pleased to give me, of an affair, that may so nearly affect the Security of his Majesty's Subjects inhabiting the back parts of this Province. I have in consequence of this Advice determined, without Loss of time, to dispatch a Special Messenger into that Country, to procure certain information of their proceedings, the result whereof, upon the return of the Messenger, I shall do my self the Honour to communicate to your Excellency.

There arrived last Night in this City, three or four of the Chiefs of the Seneca's, and as many of the Onondagoes, accompanied by about thirty of our neighbouring Indians; They have not as yet acquainted me with their Business, but in general, I understand by the interpreter, that it relates chiefly to domestick concerns, some of our people having settled upon their Lands not yet purchased by Mr. Penn. &c. If in the Course of my negotiations with these people, any thing should arise that may be worthy of your Notice, I shall not fail to apprise your Excellency of it.

I observe with great concern the unfortunate broil that has lately happened in your Town, as the Parties concern'd are both

both of my Acquaintance:— with respect to your self Sir, give me leave to say that, to be envied and maligned by discontented or disapointed People, is a Fate, that all Gentlemen in your Station must be content to pay to the Publick, however clear their administration may be, But I am astonished that any one pretending to the character of a Gentleman, could be guilty of treating a person of your Excellency's Character in so brutish a Manner. —

I shall agreably to your request take care that the Cannon you were so kind to lend to this Province in the time of their distress, be returned to you by the first Opportunity; you have I assure you the sincere acknowledgments of the Genl Associators for so — great a favour.

If there is a Ship to sail from hence to London in three or four days I shall be sure to forward your letter to W. Cathcart and should be proud of having it in my power to do you any other acceptable Service. being with great regard

Yr. Excellency's most obedient
humble Servant.

James Hamilton

Governor Clinton.

Pennsylvania, 1749.

John Abraham De Normandy, Robert Ellis, Alexander Graydon, Henry Antes, Thomas Owen, Thomas Craig, Daniel Broadhead, Mahlon Kirkbride, Langhorn Biles, Thomas Janney, Benjamin Griffith, Richard Walker & the Chief Burgess of the Borough of Bristol for the time being.

At a Council held at Philadelphia in the Supream Court July 1st 1749.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esqr Lieutenant Governor

Thomas Lawrence, Samuel Hasell, Benjamin Shoemaker, William Logan, Richard Peters } Esqrs

Indians

Three Senecas, two Onontagos, some Tutalos, & others, Nantycokes and Conoys

Ogashtash, Aputchquay } Speakers

Conrad Weiser, Esqr Interpreter.

Some Deputies of the Seneca Nation having arrived in Town on Thursday, & letting the Governor know that they had some Business to transact with the Government, His Honour appointed this Day to hear them; and on the Indians taking their Seats the Interpreter was ordered to tell them, that the Governor was ready to hear what they had to say, on which Ogashtash stood up, & spoke as follows:

Brethren, the Governor & Council, & all the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania,

We believe the Visit is unexpected, & therefore think proper to tell you the reason why we came. Early in the Spring a Council was held at Onontago by our Nations, in which sundry Affairs were taken into Consideration, and amongst others, an answer to a proposal made by the former Governor of Pennsylvania, concerning a Peace made between us & the Catawbas; it was likewise said that a new Governor was arrived at Philadelphia, & that it would be proper to shake Hands with him, & this would furnish an opportunity of settling some affairs, which if not set to right at the beginning might occasion differences; it was therefore unanimously determined to send Deputies to Philadelphia to congratulate the new Governor on his arrival, & to transact with him what other Business we had to do with the Province. The Deputies were appointed & engaged to meet at a certain place on the River Sasquehanna. We the Deputies of the Seneca Nation, accordingly came to Wyomen, the Place appointed, & staid there a whole Month; but no Deputies coming nor hearing no Tydings of them, we concluded something extraordinary has happened, & then deliberated with ourselves what to do, whether we should return or Proceed to Philadelphia; the last was resolved on for the reasons which we shall give by & by; & in token of the truth of what we say concerning the occasion of our coming here, we give you this

String of Wampum.

Pennsylvania, 1749.

Brethren,

One of the most considerable Points which induced the Council to send Deputies at this time, was, that they heard the white People had begun to settle on their side the Blue Mountains, & we the Deputies of the Senecas staying so long at Wyomen had an opportunity of enquiring into the truth of this Information and to our Surprize found the Story confirm'd, with this addition that even this Spring since the Governor's Arrival, numbers of Families were beginning to make Settlements. As our Boundaries are so well known & so remarkably distinguish'd by a range of high Mountains we could not suppose this could be done by mistake, but that either it must be done wickedly by bad People, without the knowledge of the Government, or that the new Governor had brought some Instructions from the King or the Proprietors relating to this Affair; we therefore thought it was become necessary to proceed, & to make our Complaints, to hear what the Government had to say on an Affair whereby we are likely to be very much hurt. The Governor will be pleased to tell us — whether he has brought any Orders from the King or the Proprietaries, for these People to settle on our Lands; and if not, we earnestly pray that they may be made to remove instantly, with all their Effects, to prevent the sad Consequences which will otherwise ensue; & to enforce this Request we present you with this

Belt of Wampum.

Brethren,

We can take upon us, in behalf of all the Six Nations, heartily to congratulate the Governor's arrival; we are pleas'd to hear he is a Native of the Country, promising ourselves in him a true and hearty friend to all the Indians, as he is our Countryman.

We recommend it to the Governor to tread in the Steps of those wise People who have held the Reins of Government before him in being good & kind to the Indians. Do, Brother, make it your Study to consult the Interest of our Nations; as you have so large an authority, you can do us much good or harm, we would therefore engage your Influence & Affections for us, that the same Harmony & mutual Affection may subsist during your Government, which so happily subsisted in former Times, nay from the first Settlement of this Province by our good Friend the great William Penn. We bind this our Congratulation & Request by

A String of Wampum.

Brethren;

The Governor & Council know that we are Poor and not able to present them with any thing worth their Acceptance; but notwithstanding this we cannot help as a Testimony of our Regards presenting the Governor with a small Bundle of Skins, to make him a pair of Shoes

Bundle of Skins.

Ogaushtash having finish'd, Assuchquay got up & spoke as follows:

Pennsylvania.

Brethren,

As we were coming here the Conoy Indians gave us this String of Wampum, thereby putting their Case into our Hands, which we undertook to speak to. It seems when the Proprietaries bought the Land between Delaware and Susquehanna from us, the Tract, as they tell us, on which the Conoy Town stood, was reserv'd out of the Grant, on account of those Indians then living there, & when they should quit it, they were to have a Consideration paid them for it; this we think they are now intitled to, as they have left the Land, & live among other Nations at Juniata; and, as they tell us, that they have never receiv'd any thing for their Land, we recommend it to you to see them paid.

Here he gave the Conoys String

On the Indians withdrawing, the Council judg'd it necessary that a Present should be prepar'd for the Indians & appointed Mr. Lawrence & Mr. Logan to confer with the Speaker on the value, who return'd & reported that it was the Speaker's, as well as their opinion, that a Sum not less than One hundred Pounds, should be laid out in a proper Assortment of Goods, which being approv'd of, Mr. Logan was desir'd to get the Goods ready to be produc'd on Monday or Tuesday, at the time the Governor should return his Answer to the Indians Speech.

At a Council held at Philadelphia on Tuesday July 4th: 1749.

Present

At a Council held at Philadelphia on Tuesday July 4th 1749.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esqr Lieutenant Governor

Thomas Lawrence
Abraham Taylor
Benjamin Shoemaker
Thomas Hopkinson
Richard Peters
Samuel Hasell
Robert Strettell
Joseph Turner
William Logan

} Esqrs

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approvd.

The Governor laid before the Board the Draught of an Answer to the Speech made by the Indians on Saturday, which being approved, the Interpreter was sent to the Indians, to let them know the Council was met, & the Governor ready to give them an Answer; Upon their taking their Places, he spoke as follows:

Brethren of the Six United Nations of Indians,

In the Speech you made to us the other Day, you told us that at a Council at Onondago, it was consider'd that no Answer as yet had been made to a proposal of the Governors of Pennsylvania, in behalf of the Government of Virginia, concerning a Peace between the Six United Nations & the Catawbas; & that the Council of the said Nations agreed to send Deputies to Philadelphia for that purpose, as well as

to

The Council resum'd the Consideration of the new Commissions of the Peace, & agreed to appoint the following Persons Justices for Philadelphia County, viz.: Thomas Lawrence, Samuel Hasell, Abraham Taylor, Robert Strettell, Benjamin Shoemaker, Joseph Turner, Thomas Hopkinson, William Logan, the Mayor of the City of Philadelphia for the time being, the Recorder of the City of Philada. for the time being, William Allen, Jonathan Robinson, Owen Evan, Joshua Maddox, Septimus Robinson, Edward Shippen, Charles Willing, Thomas Venables, Nicholas Ashton, Thomas Fletcher, Samuel Morris, of White Marsh, Thomas York, Francis Parvin, John Potts, Anthony Lee, William Coleman, Benjamin Franklyn, John Smith, & Rowland Evans.

And the following Justices for Bucks County, viz.: Abraham Chapman, Matthew Hughes, Simon Butler, Enion Williams, Richard Mitchel, Mark Watson, John Abraham De Normandy, Robert Ellis, Alexander Graydon, Henry Antes, Thomas Owen, Thomas Craig, Daniel Broadhead, Mahlon Kirkbride, Langhorn Biles, Thomas Janney, Benjamin Griffith, Richard Walker, & the Chief Burgess of the Borough of Bristol for the time being.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, in the Supreame Court, July 1st, 1749.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Samuel Hasell, } Esqrs.
Benjamin Shoemaker, William Logan, }
Richard Peters,

Indians.

Three Senecas, two Onontagos, some Tutatos & others, Nantycokes and Conoys.

Ogashtash, } Speakers.
Assuchquay, }

Conrad Weiser, Esqr., Interpreter.

Some Deputies of the Seneca Nation having arrived in Town on Thursday, & letting the Governor know that they had some Business to transact with the Government, His Honour appointed this Day to hear them, and on the Indians taking their Seats the Interpreter was order'd to tell them that the Governor was ready to hear what they had to say, on which Ogaushtosh stood up & spoke as follows:

"Brethren, the Governor & Council & all the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania—

"We believe the Visit is unexpected, & therefore think proper

to tell you the reason why we came. Early in the Spring a Council was held at Onontago by our Nations, in which sundry Affairs were taken into Consideration, and amongst others an answer to a proposal made by the former Governor of Pennsylvania concerning a Peace made between us & the Catawbas; it was likewise said that a new Governor was arriv'd at Philadelphia, & that it would be proper to shake Hands with him, & this wou'd furnish an opportunity of settling some affairs which, if not set to right at the beginning, might occasion differences; it was, therefore, unanimously determin'd to send Deputies to Philadelphia to congratulate the new Governor on his arrival, & to transact with him what other Business we had to do with the Province. The Deputies were appointed, & engaged to meet at a certain place on the River Sasquehanna. We, the Deputies of the Seneca Nation, accordingly came to Wyomen, the Place appointed, & staid there a whole Month, but no Deputies coming, nor hearing no Tydings of them, we concluded something extraordinary had happened, & then deliberated with ourselves what to do, whether we shou'd return or proceed to Philadelphia; the last was resolv'd on, for the reasons which we shall give by & by; & in token of the truth of what we say concerning the occasion of our coming here we give you this

"String of Wampum.

"Brethren:

"One of the most considerable Points which induced the Council to send Deputies at this time was, that they heard the white People had begun to settle on their side the Blue Mountains, & we, the Deputies of the Senecas, staying so long at Wyomen had an opportunity of enquiring into the truth of this Information, and to our Surprize found the Story confirm'd, with this addition, that even this Spring, since the Governor's Arrival, numbers of Families were beginning to make Settlements. As our Boundaries are so well known, & so remarkably distinguish'd by a range of high Mountains, we could not suppose this could be done by mistake, but that either it must be done wickedly by bad People, without the knowledge of the Government, or that the new Governor had brought some Instructions from the King or Proprietors relating to this Affair; we, therefore, thought it was become necessary to proceed & to make our Complaints, to hear what the Governments had to say on an Affair whereby we are likely to be very much hurt. The Governor will be pleased to tell us whether he has brought any Orders from the King or the Proprietaries for these People to settle on our Lands, and if not, we earnestly pray that they may be made to remove instantly with all their Effects, to prevent the sad Consequences which will otherwise ensue; & to enforce this Request we present you with this

"Belt of Wampum.

"Brethren:

"We can take upon us in behalf of the Six Nations heartily to congratulate the Governor's arrival. We are pleased to hear he is a Native of the Country, promising ourselves in him a true and hearty friend to all the Indians, as he is our Countryman.

"We recommend it to the Governor to tread in the Steps of those wise People who have held the Reins of Government before him in being good & kind to the Indians. Do, Brother, make it your Study to consult the Interest of our Nations; as you have so large an authority you can do us much good or harm; we wou'd therefore engage your Influence & Affections for us, that the same Harmony & mutual Affections may subsist during your Government which so happily subsisted in former Times, nay from the first Settlement of this Province by our good Friend the great William Penn. We bind this our Congratulation & Request by

"A String of Wampum.

"Brethren:

"The Governor & Council know that we are Poor and not able to present them with any thing worth their Acceptance; but notwithstanding this we cannot help, as a testimony of our Regards, presenting the Governor with a Small Bundle of Skins to make him a pair of Shoes."

Bundle of Skins.

Ogaushtosh having finish'd, Assuehquay got up & spoke as follows:

"Brethren:

"As we were coming here the Conoy Indians gave us this String of Wampum, thereby putting their Case into our Hands, which we undertook to Speak to. It seems when the Proprietaries bought the Land between Delaware and Sasquehanna from us, the Tract, as they told us, on which the Conoy Town stood was reserv'd out of the Grant on account of those Indians then living there, & when they should quit it they were to have a Consideration paid them for it. This we think they are now intitled to, as they have left the Land & Live among other Nations at Juniata; and as they tell us that they have never receiv'd any thing for their Land, we recommend it to you to see them paid."

Here he gave the Conoy's String.

On the Indians withdrawing, the Council judg'd it necessary that a Present should be prepar'd for the Indians, & appointed Mr. Lawrence & Mr. Logan to confer with the Speaker on the value, who return'd & reported that it was the Speaker's as well as their opinion that a Sum not less than One hundred Pounds shou'd be laid out in a proper Assortment of Goods, which being approv'd of Mr. Logan was desir'd to get the Goods ready to be produc'd on

Monday or Tuesday, at the time the Governor shou'd return his Answer to the Indians Speech.

At a Council held at Philadelphia on Tuesday, July 4th, 1749.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,	Samuel Hasell,	Esqrs.
Abraham Taylor,	Robert Strettell,	
Benjamin Shoemaker,	Joseph Turner,	
Thomas Hopkinson,	William Logan,	
Richard Peters,		

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approv'd.

The Governor laid before the Board the Draught of an Answer to the Speech made by the Indians on Saturday; which being approved, the Interpreter was sent to the Indians to let them know the Council was met & the Governor ready to give them an Answer; & on their taking their Places he spoke as follows:

"Brethren of the Six United Nations of Indians:

"In the Speech you made to us the other Day you told us that at a Council at Onontago it was consider'd that no Answer as yet had been made to a proposal of the Governors of Pennsylvania in behalf of the Government of Virginia concerning a Peace between the Six United Nations & the Catawbas, & that the Council of the said Nations agreed to send Deputies to Philadelphia for that purpose, as well as to congratulate me on my arrival, & to lodge a Complaint against some of the Inhabitants of this Province for the Settlements not yet purchased from you.

"Brethren:

"I could have wished that all the Deputies had arrived, but since the others did not come, & you had proceeded so far as to Wyomen, You did well in resolving to come to Philadelphia to our Council Fire, at which I kindly recieve you as true Deputies from the Six United Nations, & heartily bid you welcome; in token whereof I give this

"String of Wampum.

"Brethren:

"You further inform'd us that an Account having been given of some white People's making Plantations on your side of the Blue Hills, the Council at Onontago had given it in charge to the Deputies to make a Complaint of this; that staying so long at Wyomen you had an opportunity of having it confirm'd to you that several had settled there, & some since my arrival, and you

At a Council held at Philadelphia in the Supreme Court 1st July 1749.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esqr. Lieutenant Governor

Thomas Lawrence, Samuel Hasell, Benjamin Shoemaker, William Logan, Richard Peters } Esqrs

Indians, viz, 3 Senecas 2 Onondagoes some Tutalos & others Nanticokes or Conoys

Ogaushtash, Ashuchquay } Speakers

Conrad Weiser Esqr. Interpreter

Some Deputies of the Seneka Nation having arrivd in Town on Thursday & letting the Governor know that they had some Business to transact with the Government, his Honour appointed this Day to hear them, For the Indians taking their Seats, the Interpreter was orderd to tell them that the Governor was ready to hear what they had to say which Ogaushtash stood up & spoke as follows

Brethren, the Governor & Council, & all the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania.

We believe the Visit is unexpected & therefore think proper to tell you the reason why we came, — Early in the Spring a Council was held at Onondago by our Nations in which sundry Affairs were taken into Consideration, Amongst others an answer to a proposal made by the former Governor of Pennsylvania concerning a Peace made betwixt us and the Catawbas; it was likewise said that a new Governor was arrived at Philadelphia, that it would be proper to shake hands with him This would furnish an opportunity of settling some Affairs which if not set to right at the beginning might occasion differences, it was therefore unanimously determind to send Deputies to Philadelphia to congratulate the new Governor on his arrival & to transact with him what other Business we had to do with the Province — the Deputies were appointed & engagd to meet at a certain place on the River Susquehanna — We the Deputies of the Seneka Nation accordingly came to Wyomen, the place appointed & staid there a whole Month, but no other Deputies coming, nor hearing tidings of them we concluded something extraordinary had happend. & then deliberated with

with ourselves what to do, whether we shou'd return, or proceed to Philadelphia, the last w
resolv'd on for the reasons which we shall give by & by On token of the truth of what we s
concerning the occasion of our coming here we give you this

String of Wampum.

Brethren,

One of the most considerable Points which induc'd the Council to send Depu
at this time was that they heard the White People had began to settle on their side the B
Mountains, & we the Deputies of the Senekas staying so long at Weyomen had an
opportunity of enquiring into the truth of this Information & to our Surprize found the
Story confirm'd with this addition that even this Spring since the Governors arrival
numbers of Families were beginning to make Settlements; as our Boundaries are so
well known & so remarkably distinguish'd by a rang'd of high Mountains, we could no
suppose this could be done by mistake, but that either it must be done wickedly by so
People, without the knowledge of the Government, or that the new Governor had brough
some Instructions from the King or the Proprietaries relating to this Affair; we
therefore thought it was become necessary to proceed & to make our Complaint to, to hea
what the Government had to say on an Affair whereby we are likely to be very much
affected. The Governor will be pleas'd to tell us whether he has brought any Orders
from the King or the Proprietaries for these People to settle on our Lands; & if not
we earnestly pray that they may be made to remove instantly with all their Effe
to prevent the sad Consequences which will otherwise ensue, & to enforce this
Request we present you with this

Belt of Wampum.

Brethren,

We can take upon us in Behalf of all the Six Nations heartily to congratulate
the Governors Arrival; we are pleas'd to hear he is a Native of the Country, promising ourselv
in him a true and hearty Friend to all the Indians, as he is our Countryman.

We recommend it to the Governor to tread in the Steps of those wise People, who have
held the Reins of Government before him, in being good and kind to the Indians.
Do, Brother, make it your Study to consult the Interest of our Nations; as you
have so large an Authority, you can do us much Good or Harm, we would therefore engag
your Influence & Affections for Us, that the same Harmony & mutual Affection may
subs

assist during your Government, which is happily subsisted in former Times, ever from the first Settlement of this Province by our good Friend the Great William Penn. We bind this our Congratulation and Request by a String of Wampum.

Brethren,

The Governor & Council know that we are poor and not able to present them with any thing worth their acceptance; but notwithstanding this, we cannot help as a Testimony of our Regards presenting the Governor with a small Bundle of Skins, to make him a pair of Shoes.

Bundle of Skins

Ogaushtash saying he had finish'd, Atsuchquay got up, & spoke as follows:

Brethren,

As we were coming here the Conoy Indians gave us this String of Wampum, thereby putting their Case into our Hands, which we undertook to speak to. It seems when the Proprietaries bought the Land between Delaware and Susquehannah from us, the Track, as they tell us, on which the Conoy Town stood was reserv'd out of the Grant, on account of those Indians then living there, & when they should quit it they were to have a Consideration paid them ~~them~~ for it. This we think they are now intitled to, as they have left the Land and live among other Nations at Juniata, & as they tell us that they have never receiv'd any Thing for their Land; we recommend it to you to see them paid.

here he gave the Conoy's String.

When the Indians withdrawing, the Council judg'd it necessary that a Present should be prepar'd for the Indians, & appointed Mr. Logan to confer with the Speaker about the value, who return'd, & reported that it was ~~their~~ the Speakers opinion that a Sum not less than one hundred Pounds, should be laid out in a proper Assortment of Goods, which being approv'd of, Mr. Logan was desir'd to get the Goods ready to be produced on Monday or Tuesday, at the time the Governor should return his Answer to the Indians Speech.

£ 41.

At a Council held at Philadelphia on Tuesday 4th July 1749.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esq.r Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Samuel Hasell,
Abraham Taylor, Robert Strettell,
Benjamin Shoemaker, Joseph Turner,
Thomas Hopkinson, William Logan,
Richard Peters
} Esq.rs

The Governor laid before the Board the Draught of an answer to the Speech made by the Indians on Saturday which being approv'd the Interpreter was sent to the Indians to Let them know the Council was met & the Governor ready to give them an answer, and on their taking their places he spoke as follows –

Brethren of the Six United Nations of Indians,

In the Speech you made to us the other Day you told us that at a Council at Onondago it was consider'd that no answer as yet had been made to a proposal of the Governors of Pennsylvania in behalf of the Government of Virginia concerning a Peace between the Six United Nations & the Catawbas & that the Council of the said Nations agreed to send Deputies to Philadelphia for that purpose, as well as to congratulate me on my arrival, & to lodge a Complaint against some of the Inhabitants of this Province for the Settlement of the Lands not yet purchased from you.

Brethren,

I could have wish'd that all the Deputies had arrived, but since the others did not come & you had proceeded so far as to Wyomen, you did well in resolving to send to Philadelphia to our Council Fire, at which I kindly receive you as two Deputies from the Six United Nations & heartily bid you welcome, in token whereof I give you this

String of Wampum.

Brethren, You further inform'd us that an Account having been given of some white People making Plantations on your side of the Blue Hills the Council at Onondago had given it in charge to the Deputies to make a Complaint of this, that staying so long at Wyomen you had an opportunity of having it confirm'd to you that several had settled there & some since my arrival, & you desire to know whether this is done with the Consent of this Government or in consequence of any Orders I have brought from the King

Proprietors, & if not, that they may be instantly removd — Brethren, as this
rnment stands engagd to you by Treaty not to suffer any of their People to settle on
Lands till they are purchasd by the Proprietaries, they have ever endeavourd faithfully
serve this engagement by causing it to be proclaimd that none shoud on the highest
alties presume to settle on the West side of that Ridge of Mountains which is the
oundary between us and you, yet notwithstanding these Proclamations some have been
audacious as to go there, but they have been forcibly removd & their Plantations broke up
destroyed.

Brethren,

I give you the strongest assurances that these People have not had the least
untenance from the Government for what they have done & that I have receivd no Orders
om His Majesty or the Proprietors in favour of them — And that I am heartily inclind
take the most effectual care that these unwarrantable Settlements be not made, as all
are against the Publick Faith given to the Six Nations, & have a tendency to disturb
Peace between us & you & to create endless differences — No endeavours therefore
shall be wanting on my part to bring these Offenders to Justice & to prevent all
further cause of Complaints, and in confirmation of the truth of these assurances, I
present you with this

Belt of Wampum.

Brethren,

The People of this Province cannot but entertain an high opinion of the
egard of the Six Nations for them, in that they are always ready to pay all proper
pects to their Governors — In this light I receive their Compliments to me on my
val and am particularly obligd to you their Deputies for your favourable opinio
thereof. Had I more Power it should be all usd in your favour so long as you main
Character you have hitherto done, for I can sincerely assure you that the
Proprietors cannot commit the Administration of their Affairs to any one who has he
Inclinations to do you Service than I have, so that I shall on all occasions study
promote your true Interest to which I am strongly impelld not only by my own
Affection, as being a Native of the Country but by the Laudable Example of my pre
and above all by the pleasure I know any good I shall do you will give to the honble

Proprietors, whose Commands I have repeatedly received to be sure to be kind to
Indians.

In Testimony of the sincerity of my Love for You I present you with
this

String of Wampum.

Brethren,

The value of a Present arises principally from the Affection with which
is given, & yours therefore on this Account is as agreable as if it was of more real worth
In return the good People of this Province sensible of the trouble and fatigue so long
a Journey must needs have given you, & in token of their Esteem for the Six Nations
who appointed you on the Deputation have provided a Present of Goods which they
desire your acceptance of, the Secretary will read the List & the Interpreter will
Deliver them to you when you please to receive them.

The Governor gave the List of Goods to the Secretary who read

Brethren,

I now return an answer to Assachgoa who gave this String in behalf of
Conoy Indians — I am sorry to say that those Indians have misrepresented the fact
for on the information I have received from the Proprietary's Officers this Land which is
but a small piece where their Town stood was not reserv'd out of the Grant of the Land
sold by the Six Nations but at that time the Conoy Indians being desirous to continue
there prevail'd with the Six Nations to ask this as a favour from the Proprietors that the
Land should not be disposed of by the Proprietors while they the Conoys remain'd on it
at their Instance the Proprietors granted them this favour, & they might have lived here
till now, but as they chose voluntarily to go away, & signified this by a String of Wampum
to the Government, they had Leave accordingly to go to Juniata or elsewhere — You
do not but know the Six Nations have frequently desir'd the Proprietors not to give the
Property Tributary Nations for Land, & as these Conoys are such they would have reason to
had fault with the Proprietors should they pay them any thing, especially as they have
already given to the Six Nations a valuable Consideration for it. I confirm this by
a String of Wampum.

The Indians having by Mr Wilson made a Request to the Govr to order their Guns
to be minded he gave orders accordingly.

A true Copy Richard Peters
Sec & Secretary

GEO. CROGHAN TO , 1749.

July 3d, 1749.

Sr:

Last night I Received yr favor by Express from The Governor, & after Considering ye Accounts Related By ye two New England Men of ye Frenchs Desinge to hinder the English from Makeng a Setlement on Ohio, Must Proceed from an alarm that Mr. Cresap & Mr. Parker Spread amongst ye Ingans Last fall that ye Virginians was goingto Setle a Branch of ohio Calld Yougagain & that then they wou'd Suply ye Indians with goods Much Cheaper than they Col'd be Suplyd from Pensilvaina, Butt to my Certain knowlidge that Report had nott its Desired affectt, for Instead of gaining an Interest Amongst ye Indians itt gave them an aversion to Mr. Parker, for the Indians Dos nott Like to hear of there Lands being Setled over Allegany Mountain, & in particular by ye Virginians, Butt My Opinion is that they will nott Come To Ohio, Butt Rather go by Lake Erie towards Wabauce in order to Secure a very Considerable branch of Trade amongst ye Twightwees which has been out of thire hands Some years past and of Considerable advantage to this Province, & itt is well known ye French will Spare no Troble to advance thire Trade, Nor No people Carries on ye Indians Trade in So Regular a manner as the French. I wish with all My hart ye Government of this Province wol'd Take Some Method to Regulate ye Indian Trade, & to prevent Many Disorders which Arises from ye Carring of Sperits in ye Indian Cuntrys. I have this Morning Dispatchd of one of My hands to ye Borders of Lake Erie, to Andrew Montour, who is Living there, in order that he Should Meet Me att Ohio, for which Place I will Sett out on Monday Next My Self. I have Given Instructions to Andrew to find out if posable whether there be any French on Lake Erie or there Abouts, & then to Meet Me where the body of the Indians are Setled on Ohio. I Make no Doubt butt the French will Make use of unfair Methods they Can to bring over all ye Indians they can to there Interest, But I am of opinion that ye Indians are So well grafted in ye English Interest that they will Nott be Esey Deceved by the French. I will follow ye Governour's Instructions when I Go to Ohio, and all Methods that is proper for Securing ye Interest of the Indians, & when I Come to Ohio if I find there is any Truth in this Report or any Danger Apace, I will Stay att Ohio with Androw Monteur in order to keep ye Indians Study, & Dispatch a Mesinger with News to ye Governor, if ye report Should prove false, as I hope itt will, I shall have ye plesher of Seeing you in Town after My Return from Ohio by first of Augst, Till when I remain,

Dr Sr,

your Most humble Servant,

GEO. CROGHAN.

Pennsylvania.

Brethren,

As we were coming here the Conoy Indians gave us this String of Wampum, thereby putting their Case into our Hands, which we undertook to speak to. It seems when the Proprietaries bought the Land between Delaware and Sasquehanna from us, the Tract, as they tell us, on which the Conoy Town stood, was reserv'd out of the Grant, on account of those Indians then living there, & when they should quit it, they were to have a Consideration paid them for it; this we think they are now intitled to, as they have left the Land, & live among other Nations at Juniata; and, as they tell us, that they have never receiv'd any thing for their Land, we recommend it to you to see them paid.

Here he gave the Conoy's String

On the Indians withdrawing, the Council judg'd it necessary that a Present should be prepared for the Indians & appointed Mr. Lawrence & Mr. Logan to confer with the Speaker on the value, who returned & reported that it was the Speaker's, as well as their opinion, that a Sum not less than One hundred Pounds, should be laid out in a proper Assortment of Goods, which being approv'd of, Mr. Logan was desir'd to get the Goods ready to be produced on Monday or Tuesday, at the time the Governor should return his Answer to the Indians Speech.

At a Council held at Philadelphia on Tuesday July 4th: 1749.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esqr. Lieutenant Governor

Thomas Lawrence, Abraham Taylor, Benjamin Shoemaker, Thomas Hopkinson, Richard Peters, Samuel Hazell, Robert Strettell, Joseph Turner, William Logan } Esqrs.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approv'd.

The Governor laid before the Board the Draught of an Answer to the Speech made by the Indians on Saturday, which being approved, the Interpreter was sent to the Indians, to let them know the Council was met, & the Governor ready to give them an Answer; Upon their taking their Places, he spoke as follows:

Brethren, of the Six United Nations of Indians,

In the Speech you made to us the other Day, you told us that at a Council at Onondago, it was consider'd that no Answer as yet had been made to a proposal of the Governors of Pennsylvania, in behalf of the Government of Virginia, concerning a Peace between the Six United Nations & the Catawbas; & that the Council of the said Nations agreed to send Deputies to Philadelphia for that purpose, as well as

to

Pennsylvania, 1749.

to congratulate me upon my arrival, & to lodge a Complaint against some of the Inhabitants of this Province for the Settlements not yet purchased from you.

Brethren,

I could have wished that all the Deputies had arrived, but since the others did not come, & you had proceeded so far as to Wyomen, you did well in resolving to come to Philadelphia to our Council Fire; at which I kindly receive you as true Deputies from the Six United Nations & heartily bid you welcome; in token whereof I give this String of Wampum.

Brethren,

You further informed us that an Account having been given of some white People's making Plantations on your side of the Blue Hills, the Council at Onondago had given it in charge to the Deputies, to make a Complaint of this; that staying so long at Wyomen you had an opportunity of having it confirmed to you that several had settled there, & some since my Arrival, and you desired to know whether this is done with the Consent of this Government or in Consequence of any Orders I have brought from the King or the Proprietaries, and if not, that they may be instantly removed. Brethren, as this Government stands engaged to you by Treaty not to suffer any of their People to settle on Lands 'till they are purchased by the Proprietaries, they have ever endeavoured faithfully to observe this Engagement by causing it to be proclaimed, that none should on the highest Penalties presume to settle on the West side of that ridge of Mountains, which is the Boundary between us & you; yet notwithstanding these Proclamations, some have been so audacious as to go there, but they have been forcibly removed, & their Plantations broke up & destroyed.

Brethren,

I give you the strongest assurances that these People have not had the least countenance from the Government for what they have done, & that I have received no Orders from His Majesty or the Proprietaries in favour of them And that I am heartily inclined to take the most effectual Care that these unwarrantable Settlements be not made; as all such are against the Publick Faith given to the Six Nations, & have a tendency to disturb the Peace between us and you, & to create endless differences. No endeavours therefore shall be wanting on my part to bring these offenders to Justice, & to prevent all further Cause of Complaint; and in Confirmation of the truth of these Assurances, I present you with this Belt of Wampum.

Brethren,

The People of this Province cannot but entertain an high opinion of the regard of the Six Nations for them, in that they are always ready to pay all proper Respects to their Governors. In this Light I receive their Compliments to me on my arrival, & am particularly obliged to you their Deputies for your favourable opinion of me. Had I more Power it should be all used in your favour.

so Long as you maintain the Character you have hitherto done; for I can sincerely assure you, the Proprietaries cannot commit the Administration of their Affairs to any one who has heartier Inclinations to do you Service than I have; so that I shall on all occasions Study & promote your true Interest, to which I am strongly impelled, not only by my own Affection, as being a Native of the Country, but by the Laudable Example of my Predecessors, & above all, by the pleasure I know any Good I shall do you will give to the honourable Proprietaries, whose Commands I have repeatedly received to be sure to be kind to the Indians.

In Testimony of the sincerity of my Love for you, I present you with this String of Wampum,

Brethren,

The value of a Present arises principally from the Affection with which it is given, and Yours therefore on this Account is as agreable as if it was of more real worth. In return, the good People of this Province, sensible of the trouble and fatigue so long a Journey must needs have given you, & in token of their Esteem for the Six Nations who appointed You on the Deputation have provided a Present of Goods, which they desire your Acceptance of; the Secretary will read the List, & the Interpreter will deliver them to you when you please to receive them.

(The Governor gave the List of Goods to the Secretary who read it.)

Brethren,

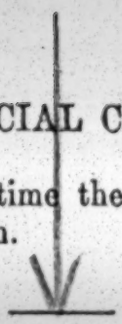
I now return an answer to Assuchquay, who gave this String in behalf of the Conoy Indians. I am sorry to say that these Indians have misrepresented the fact; for on the Information I have received from the Proprietor's Officers, this Land, which is but a small Piece where their Town stood, was not reserv'd out of their Grants of the Lands sold by the Six Nations; but at that time the Conoy Indians, being desirous to continue there, prevail'd with the Six Nations to ask this as a favour from the Proprietaries, while they (the Conoys) remain'd on it; and at their Instance, the Proprietaries granted them this favour, & they might have Lived there till now, but as they chose voluntarily to go away, & signified this by a String of Wampum to the Government, they had Leave accordingly to go to Juniata or elsewhere. You cannot but know the Six Nations have frequently desired the Proprietaries not to give Money to any tributary Nations for Land, & as these Conoys are such, they would have reason to find fault with the Proprietaries, should they pay them any thing, especially as they have already given to the Six Nations a valuable Consideration for it. I confirm this by

A String of Wampum.

10 Pieces of Strouds	15 Guns	3 Pieces of Gold Lace
10 Pieces of Striped Duffills	20 Brass Kettles	5 doz. of Scrizzars
10 Pieces of Half Thicks	3 doz. of Hatchetts	3 Gross of Ear Rings
10 Half Barrells of Gunpowder	20 doz. of Knives	10 Gross of Rings
10 ℔ of Bar Lead	5 Att. of Flints	5 Pack of Morris's Belts
3 ℔ of Small Shott	5 doz. of looking Glasses	4 Gross of Brass Thimbles
20 ℔ of Vermillion	6 Gross of Awl Blades	5 ℔ of small white Beads
140 Plain Shirts	15 Gross of Gartering	1½ Gross of small Brass Juice Harps
50 Ruffled Ones	15 Pieces of Ribbon	1 ℔ of Handkerchief
		Tobacco & Pipes

The Indians having by Mr. Weiser made a Request to the Governor to order their Guns to be mended, he gave Orders accordingly.

Monday or Tuesday, at the time the Governor shou'd return his Answer to the Indians Speech.



At a Council held at Philadelphia on Tuesday, July 4th, 1749.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,	Samuel Hasell,	Esqrs.
Abraham Taylor,	Robert Strettell,	
Benjamin Shoemaker,	Joseph Turner,	
Thomas Hopkinson,	William Logan,	
Richard Peters,		

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approv'd.

The Governor laid before the Board the Draught of an Answer to the Speech made by the Indians on Saturday; which being approved, the Interpreter was sent to the Indians to let them know the Council was met & the Governor ready to give them an Answer; & on their taking their Places he spoke as follows:

"Brethren of the Six United Nations of Indians:

"In the Speech you made to us the other Day you told us that at a Council at Onontago it was consider'd that no Answer as yet had been made to a proposal of the Governors of Pennsylvania in behalf of the Government of Virginia concerning a Peace between the Six United Nations & the Catawbas, & that the Council of the said Nations agreed to send Deputies to Philadelphia for that purpose, as well as to congratulate me on my arrival, & to lodge a Complaint against some of the Inhabitants of this Province for the Settlements not yet purchased from you.

"Brethren:

"I could have wished that all the Deputies had arrived, but since the others did not come, & you had proceeded so far as to Wyomen, You did well in resolving to come to Philadelphia to our Council Fire, at which I kindly recieve you as true Deputies from the Six United Nations, & heartily bid you welcome; in token whereof I give this

"String of Wampum.

"Brethren:

"You further inform'd us that an Account having been given of some white People's making Plantations on your side of the Blue Hills, the Council at Onontago had given it in charge to the Deputies to make a Complaint of this; that staying so long at Wyomen you had an opportunity of having it confirm'd to you that several had settled there, & some since my arrival, and you

desire to know whether this is done with the Consent of this Government or in Consequence of any Orders I have brought from the King or the Proprietaries; and if not, that they may be instantly removed. Brethren, as this Government stands engag'd to you by Treaty not to suffer any of their People to settle on Lands till they are purchas'd by the Proprietaries, they have ever endeavour'd faithfully to observe this Engagement by causing it to be proclaimed that none should, on the highest Penalties, presume to settle on the West side of that ridge of Mountains which is the Boundary between us and you; yet, notwithstanding these Proclamations, some have been so audacious as to go there, but they have been forcibly removed & their Plantations broke up & destroy'd.

"Brethren:

"I give you the strongest assurances that these People have not had the least countenance from the Government for what they have done, and that I have received no Orders from His Majesty or the Proprietaries in favour of them, And that I am heartily inclined to take the most effectual Care that these unwarrantable Settlements be not made, as all such are against the Publick Faith given to the Six Nations, & have a tendency to disturb the Peace between us and you, & to create endless differences. No endeavors, therefore, shall be wanting on my part to bring these offenders to Justice, & to prevent all further Cause of Complaint; and in Confirmation of the truth of these Assurances, I present you with this

"Belt of Wampum.

"Brethren:

"The People of this Province cannot but entertain an high opinion of the regard of the Six Nations for them, in that they are always ready to pay all proper respects to their Governors. In this Light I receive their Compliments to me on my arrival, & am particularly oblig'd to you, their Deputies, for your favorable opinion of me. Had I more Power it should be all used in your favour, so long as you maintain the Character you have hitherto done; for I can sincerely assure you y' the Proprietaries cannot commit the Administration of their Affairs to any one who has heartier Inclinations to do you Service than I have, so that I shall on all occasions study & promote your true Interest, to which I am strongly impell'd, not only by my own Affection as being a Native of the Country, but by the laudable Example of my Predecessors, & above all by the pleasure I know any Good I shall do you will give to the Honorable Proprietaries, whose Commands I have repeatedly receiv'd to be sure to be kind to the Indians. In Testimony of the sincerity of my love for you I present you with this

"String of Wampum.

"Brethren:

"The value of a Present arises principally from the Affection

with which it is given, and Yours, therefore, on this Account is as agreeable as if it was of more real worth. In return, the good People of this Province, sensible of the trouble and fatigue so long a Journey must needs have given you, & in token of their Esteem for the Six Nations who appointed You on the Deputation, have provided a Present of Goods which they desire your Acceptance of; the Secretary will read the List, & the Interpreter will deliver them to you when you please to recieve them."

The Governor gave the List of Goods to the Secretary, who read it.

"Brethren:

"I now return an answer to Assuehqua, who gave this String in behalf of the Conoy Indians. I am sorry to say that these Indians have misrepresented the fact, for on the Information I have recieved from the Proprietor's Officers, this Land, which is but a Small Piece where their Town stood, was not reserv'd out of their Grants of the Lands sold by the Six Nations; but at that time the Conoy Indians being desirous to continue there, prevail'd with the Six Nations to ask this as a favor from the Proprietaries, while they (the Conoys) remain'd on it, and at their Instance the Proprietaries granted them this favour, & they might have lived there till now; but as they chose voluntarily to go away, & signified this by a String of Wampum to the Government, they had leave accordingly to go to Juniata or elsewhere. You cannot but know the Six Nations have frequently desired the Proprietaries not to give Money to any tributary Nations for Land, & as these Conoys are such they would have reason to find fault with the Proprietaries shou'd they pay them anything, especially as they have already given to the Six Nations a valuable Consideration for it; I confirm this by

"A String of Wampum."

10 Pieces of Strowds,
10 Pieces of Striped Duffills,
10 Pieces of Half Thicks,
10 Half Barrels of Gun-powder,
10 cwt. of Barr Lead,
3 cwt. of Small Shott,
20 lb. of Vermillion,
140 Plain Shirts,
50 Ruffled Ones,
15 guns,
20 Brass Kettles,
3 doz. of Hatchetts,
20 doz. of Knives,
5 M. of Flints,
5 doz. of Looking Glasses,
6 Groce of Awl Blades,
15 Groce of Gartering,
15 Pieces of Ribbon,
3 Pieces of Bed lace,
5 doz. of Scizzars,
3 Groce of Ear-Rings,
10 Groce of Rings,
5 Pack of Morris' Bells,
4 Groce of Brass Thimbles,
5 lb. of small white Beads,
1½ Groce of small Brass Juice Harps,
1 p^ce. of Handkerchief,
Tobacco & Pipes.

The Indians having by Mr. Weiser made a Request to the Gov-

ernor to order their Guns to be mended, he gave Orders accordingly.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday, 18th July, 1749.

PRESENT;

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Samuel Hasell, Robert Strettell, } Esqrs.
Thomas Hopkinson, Richard Peters, }

The Minutes of the preceeding Council were read and approv'd.

The Governor laid before the Board the Draught of a Proclamation, agreeable to the Request of the Seneca Deputies at the last Treaty, which was approv'd & order'd to be publish'd & printed.

"By the Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor & Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania & Counties of New Castle, Kent, & Sussex, on Delaware.

"A PROCLAMATION.

"*Whereas*, The Deputies of the Senekas, at a Treaty lately held at Philada., complained to me, in behalf of the Six United Nations, that contrary to the Tenor of a former Treaty now subsisting between them & this Government & without their Consent, divers Persons, Inhabitants of this Province, have seated themselves & Families on Lands not purchased of them, lying Westward of the Blue Hills, very much to their Hurt, earnestly prayed that they should be forthwith remov'd, to prevent the bad Consequences that might otherwise ensue. And forasmuch as these Persons have neither Lycence from the Proprietaries nor colour of Title to the said Lands, & to permit them to stay there wou'd not only be a breach of the Publick Faith given to the Six Nations, but may occasion dangerous Quarrels with them, & be the Cause of much Bloodshed; Therefore for preventing these Mischiefs I have thought fit, with the advice of the Council, to issue this Proclamation; & do hereby, in His Majesty's Name, strictly charge, command, and enjoin all & every the Persons who have presum'd to settle in any part of the Province Westward of the Blue Bills to remove themselves, their Families & Effects, off those Lands on or before the first Day of November next; And in Case of their Neglect or Refusal, I do, in His Majesty's Name, strictly charge & command all & every the Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, & Officers within this Province, whose Assistance may be necessary, that they, immediately after the said first Day of November, cause the Delinquents, with their Families and Effects, to be removed off the said Lands, as the Law in such Cases directs. And hereof all Persons con-

At a Council held at Philadelphia in the State House Saturday July 1.st 1719.

Present

The Honoble James Hamilton Esq.r Lieutenant Governor

Thomas Lawrence
Benjamin Shoemaker
Richard Peters
Samuel Hasel
William Logan
} Esq.rs

Indians viz 3 Senekas 2 Onondagos some Tutalos 5 others Nantycokes or Conoys.

Speakers Ogaushtash, Hsuchquay } Senekas

Conrad Weiser Esq.r Interpreter

The Interpreter was order'd to tell the Indians that the Governor was ready to hear what they had to say, on which Ogaushtash stood up and spoke as follows

Brethren, the Governor & Council & all the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania

We believe the visit is unexpected & therefore think proper to tell you the reason why we came. — Early in the Spring a Council was held at Onondago by our Nations in which sundry Affairs were taken into Consideration, Amongst others an answer to a proposal made by the former Governor of Pennsylvania concerning a Peace between us & the Catawbas; it was likewise said that a new Governor was arrived at Philadelphia, which would give an opportunity of telling some Affairs which if not set to right at the beginning might occasion differences, it was therefore unanimously determined to send Deputies to Philadelphia to congratulate the new Governor on his arrival, & to transact with him what other Business we had to do with the Province. The Deputies were appointed and engaged to meet at a certain Place on the River Susquehannah. We the Deputies of the Seneka Nation accordingly came to Wyomen the Place appointed & staid there a whole Month, but no other Deputies coming —

nor hearing no Tydings of them we concluded some thing extraordinary had happen'd & then deliberated with ourselves what to do. whether we should return or proceed to Philadelphia; the last was resolv'd on for the reasons which we shall give by & by. and in token of the truth of what we say concerning the occasion of our coming here we give you this String of Wampum.

Brethren;

One of the most considerable Points which induc'd the Council to send Deputies at this time was that then heard the white People had began to settle on their side of the Blue Mountains, & we the Deputies of the Senekas staying so long at Wyomen had an opportunity of enquiring into the truth of this Information & to our surprize found the story confirm'd with this addition that even this Spring since the Governors arrival numbers of Families were beginning to make Settlements; as our Boundaries are so well known & so remarkably distinguish'd by a Range of high Mountains we could not suppose this could be done by mistake but that either it must be done wickedly by bad People without the knowledge of the Government or that the new Governor had brought some Instructions from the King or the Proprietaries relating to this Affair, we therefore thought it was second necessary to proceed & to make our Complaints & to hear what the Government had to say on an affair whereby we are likely to be very much hurt; the Governor will be pleas'd to tell us whether he has brought any Orders from the King or Proprietaries for these People to settle on our Lands, and if not we earnestly pray that they may be made to remove instantly with all their Effects to prevent the sad Consequences which will otherwise ensue, & to enforce this Request we present you with this Belt of Wampum.

Brethren, We can take upon us in behalf of all the Six Nations heartily to congratulate the Governors arrival, we are pleas'd to hear he is a native

of

of the Country; promising ourselves in him a true & hearty Friend to all the Indians as he is our Countryman — We recommend it to the Governor to tread in the Steps of those wise People who have held the Reins of Government before him, in being good and kind to the Indians — Do, Brother, make it your Study to consult the Interest of our Nations, as you have so large an Authority you can do us much good or harm, we would therefore engage your influence & affections for us that the same harmony & mutual affection may subsist during your Government, which so happily subsisted in former Times, may from the first Settlement of this Province by our good Friend the great William Penn. We bind this our Congratulation & Request by a String of Wampum.

Brethren,

The Governor & Council know that we are poor & not able to present them with any thing worth their acceptance, but notwithstanding this we cannot help as a Testimony of our Regards presenting the Governor with a small Bundle of Skins to make him a Pair of Shoes.

Bundle of Skins

Opaumahtash saying he had finish'd, Shuchquay got up and spoke as follows

Brethren,

As we were coming here the Conoy Indians gave us this String of Wampum, thereby putting their Case into our hands which we undertook to speak to — It seems when the Proprietaries bought the Land between Delaware & Sasquehanna from us, the Tract as they tell us, on which the Conoy Town stood was reserv'd out of the Grant on account of those Indians then living there, & when they should quit it they were to have a Consideration paid them for it; this we think they are now entitled to, as they have left the Land & live among other Indians at Juniata, & as they tell us that they have never receiv'd any thing for their Land we recommend it to You to see them paid.

here he gave the Conoys String.

At a Council held at Philad.a in the State House Tuesday July 4th 1749.

Present

The Honble James Hamilton Esqr Lieutenant Governor

Thomas Lawrence
Robert Strettel
Joseph Turner
William Logan
Abraham Taylor
Benjamin Shoemaker
Thomas Hopkinson
Richard Peters
} Esqrs

The Indians were sent for & when seated the Governor spoke as follows

Brethren of the Six United Nations of Indians.

In the Speech you made to us the other day you told us that at a Council at Onondago it was consulted that no answer as yet had been made to a proposal of the Governors of Pennsylvania in behalf of the Government of Virginia concerning a Peace between the Six United Nations & the Catawbas & that the Council of the said Nations agreed to send Deputies to Philadelphia for that purpose as well as to congratulate me on my Arrival, and to lodge a Complaint against some of the Inhabitants of this Province for their settlement of the Lands not yet purchas'd from you.

Brethren,

I could have wish'd that all the Deputies had arrived, but since the others did not come & you had proceeded so far as to Oyomen you did well in resolving to come to Philadelphia to our Council Fire at which I kindly receive you as true Deputies from the Six United Nations & heartily bid you welcome, in token whereof I give you this String of Wampum.

Brethren,

You further informed us that an account having been given of some white People making Plantations on your side of the Blue Hills. the Council at Onondago had given it in charge to the Deputies to make a Complaint of this, that staying so long at Oyomen you had an opportunity

of

of having it confirm'd to You that several had settled there & some since my arrival, and you desire to know whether this is done with consent of this Government or in consequence of any Orders I have brought from the King or the Proprietors if not that they may be instantly remov'd — Brethren, as this Government stands engag'd to you by Treaty not to suffer any of their People to settle on your Lands 'till they are purchas'd by the Proprietors, they have ever endeavour'd faithfully to observe this engagement by causing it to be proclaim'd that none shou'd on the highest Penalties presume to settle on the West side of that Ridge of Mountains which is the Boundaries between us and you, yet notwithstanding these Proclamations some have been so audacious as to go there but they have been forcibly remov'd & their Plantations broke up and destroyed.

Brethren,

I give you the strongest assurances that these People have not had the least Countenance from the Government for what they have done & that I have receiv'd no orders from His Majesty or the Proprietors in favour of them, and that I am heartily inclin'd to take the most effectual care that these unwarrantable Settlements be not made, as all such are against the Publick Faith given to the Six Nations & have a Tendency to disturb the Peace between Us and You & to create endless differences — No endeavours therefore shall be wanting on my part to bring these offenders to Justice & to prevent all further Cause of Complaint, and in confirmation of the truth of these Assurances I present you with this Belt of Wampum.

Brethren,

You were pleas'd by this String to congratulate me on my arrival.

The People of this Province cannot but entertain an high opinion of the regard of the Six Nations for them in that they are always ready to pay all proper Respects to their Governors — I for this Light perceive their Compliments to me on my arrival, and am particularly oblig'd to you, their Deputies,

for your favourable opinion of me. Had I more Power it should be attended in your favour so long as you maintain the Character You have hitherto done, for I can sincerely assure you that the Proprietors cannot commit the administration of their Affairs to any one who has heartier Inclinations to do you Service than I have; so that I shall on all occasions study to promote your true Interest, to which I am strongly impelled not only by my own affection, as being a Native of the Country, but by the laudable Example of my Predecessors, and above all by the pleasure I know any good I shall do you will give to the honble Proprietaries, whose commands I have repeatedly received to be sure to be kind to the Indians.

In Testimony of the sincerity of my love for you I present you with this String of Wampum.

Brethren,

You were pleased to make me a Present of Skins.

The value of a Present arises principally from the affection with which it is given, & yours therefore on this account is as agreable as if it was of more real worth — In return the good People of this Province sensible of the trouble & fatigue so long a Journey must needs have given you in token of their Esteem for the Six Nations who appointed you on the Deputation have provided a Present of Goods which they desire your acceptance of — The Secretary will read the List & the Interpreter will deliver them to you when you please to receive them.

The Governor gave the List of Goods to the Secretary who read it, amounting in the whole to the value of One hundred Pounds.

Brethren,

I now return an answer to Ashuchqua who gave this String in behalf of the Conoy Indians — I am sorry to say that those Indians have misrepresented the fact, for on the Information I have received from the Proprietary's Officers, this Land, which is but a small Piece where their Town

stood

stood was not reserv'd out of the Grant of the Lands sold by the Six Nations but at that time the Conoy Indians being desirous to continue there prevail'd with the Six Nations to ask this as a favour from the Proprietors that this Land should not be dispos'd of by the Proprietors while they the Conoys remain'd on it, and at their Instance the Proprietors granted them this favour, & they might have Liv'd there till now, but as they chose voluntarily to go away Signified this by a String of Wampum to the Governorent they had leave accordingly to go to Juniata or elsewhere — You cannot but know that the Six Nations have frequently desir'd the Proprietors not to give Money to any Tributary Nations for Land, and as these Conoys are such they would have reason to find fault with the Proprietors should they pay them any thing, especially as they have already given to the Six Nations a valuable Consideration for it. I confirm this by a String of Wampum.

A True Copy
Richard Peters
Clerk of the Commis

5th July 1749

Conferences with the Indians of the Six Nations at Philadelphia, in July 1749.

Character. This S[r] I take the Liberty to write of at this time that if any thing is thought proper to be don Coll. Johnson may be consulted but I beleive Collins being Silenced would be better liked than the Judges being changed & would more effectually Remedy the Disorders that now prevent the business of the Courts going on regularly for they have carried it to that height that they have Stopt takeing out any Writts & [torn] business (as V C. & W. own) in hopes that would make me comply with them but they are very much out in their Politicks I hear Collins said to day that he [torn] despair of br[ing]ing me to & I was glad to hear [torn] time that my not Compliance was [torn] find with me Haveing [torn] shall only add that I am in health [torn] to my Moth[r] & love to my B[rs] & S-[torn] to write Please S[r] to b-[torn]

[Signature torn away]

Since I wrote the above I find from Coll. Johnson that he inten-[torn] for Collins's being Sile-[torn] July [torn]

To Dr. John Mitchell

[Unsigned draft in Colden's handwriting]

July 6th 1749

To D[r] Mitchel

Dear S[r]

I had not the pleasure to know that you have thought of me so often as I perceive you have don by yours of the 25th of March last which is the only one I have receiv'd from you since you left America. My pleasure however is increased as this letter restores the hopes I had once intertain'd & I had given up as vain. M[r] Collinson inform'd me (& which was the only thing I heard of you) that you had assisted at the framing a

title page to the Indian History but as I do not write to serve the same purposes for which the Booksellers print I never could have consented to such kind of Title page I was still more surprised to find my name affixed to a Dedication to Mr Oglethorp a Gentleman of note with whom I have no kind of Acquaintance I was desirous to have had the Dedication in the New York Edition to Mr Burnet then Govr of the place reprinted in the English Edition as some token of my esteem of & gratitude to the Memory of that Gentn who remain'd my friend to his Death Nothing is so like to make me vain of that performance as your telling me that the Duke of Argyle [1] was pleas'd with it & would be pleased to see the prosecution The present Duke's Character is so well known in the world that every man must think it a great honour to have any share in his Grace's esteem but I have some more particular reason to desire it from the great regard my father allwise had to that noble family and the Confidence one of them once placed in him The present Duke's Grandfather [2] after he had made his escape from the Castle of Edenburgh discover'd himself to my father who happen'd to be at that time in Ireland & my father was of some use to him in assisting him to go from Ireland to Holland The present Duke's father [3] had some esteem for my father as I have reason to think by his doing my father the honour of a visit every time he came into that part of the Country where my father lived & I remember to have seen him two or three times at my father's house I shall endeavour to prepare something on the Indian affairs & send to you that you may lay before his Grace if you shall think it deserves his reading in which I shall indeavour to give his Grace all the information I can & without any view of its appearing in print

But Sr You lay the strongest obligations upon me by the concern you express for my personal interest &

[1] Archibald Campbell, third Duke of Argyll.
[2] Archibald Campbell, ninth Earl of Argyll, died 1685.
[3] Archibald Campbell, first Duke of Argyll, died 1703.

Character which makes the deeper impression at this time when I have met with the greatest malice not only undeservedly but ungratefully & therefore I perswade my self it will not be tiresome to you read some account of the publick transactions in which I have contrary to my inclinations been ingaged It will be necessary for me to give you the state of the publick affairs in this Province before I began to intermedle with them for without this you cannot understand the true grounds of the publick Dissensions & the motives which led to them I shall indeavour to be as concise as possible that I may avoid being tiresome

Mr Clinton our present Governor was educated in the Sea Service & was litle conversant in any other publick affairs & therefore found it necessary for him to confide in some persons in this place for advice On which Occasion Mr Chief Justice De Lancey had great advantages in recommending himself to the Governor's confidence by his office & his being of the Council but principally by his Disposition to good fellowship which suited with the Governors humour The other Gentlemen who were senior to him & formerly had been principally advised with soon found that he had receiv'd prejudices against them & resolv'd to give no interruption I had some years before that time retir'd to the country & I was so far enter'd into some philosophical speculations a specimen of which I had a litle before that time published that nothing I desir'd so much as to be at ease to prosecute these amusements as the fittest for an advanced Age My wish was & still is Otium cum quadam dignitate. I was far from interrupting any scheme that was then on foot & consequently I was well with the Govr & his friends when I happen'd at any time to be with them Chief Justice De Lancey made use of the Governs confidence to have the Council filled up with his relations or persons dependent upon him & at the same time by pursueing popular maxims established a powerfull Faction in the Assembly which he chiefly did by perswading the Govr to make such con-

cessions to the Assembly (tho' contrary to his Majesty's Instructions) that all the officers of the Gov^t became entirely dependent on the Chief Justice & his Faction in the Assembly both for the nomination to their offices & for their Sallaries or rewards for their Services & in effect the Govr had inadvertently put the whole executive powers into their hands. When this was don the Chief Justice began to put in execution his principal plot viz to make the Govr tired of his Govern^t & to get it to himself by some easy composition For this purpose all the litle arts were practised to give the people a mean opinion of the Govr & every difficulty thrown in the way that might perplex him in his administration while at the same time under some pretended disgust he withdrew the Assistance he had before given the Govr by his advice & friends The Orders for levying men for the Expedition intended against Canada comeing at this time gave him a still fairer Opportunity of perlexing the Govr & the Govr summoning me at that time to attend the Council I was surprised at the state in which I found him

The Governor by his Orders was to ingage the Six Nations of Indians & as many other nations as he could to join in the Expedition against Canada They had before this shewn so great a dissatisfaction with us occasion'd by the ill usage they had met with from the Traders & others which was increased by the artifices of the French emissaries among them that it was thought impracticable to engage them in the War against Canada and as the attempt by land could not be carried on without the assistance of Indians the Faction had great hopes from hence to throw such a disgrace on Mr Clinton's administration & conduct that he should not be able to support himself under it For this reason Mr Chief Justice of all of his Faction under various pretences refus'd to attend the Govr to Albany & put it on me to go for from our constitution it is necessary that at least three of the Council attend the Govr on such like occasions This the Govr told me for I was not present

when this matter was debated in Council & I heard him afterwards charge them in Council with this refusal which they at that time did not deny.

When the Govr went to Albany he did not suspect that he would have had any other care put upon him than the other Gov^rs^ on the continent had besides that of the Indians But Mr Gooch [1] not coming thither to take the command of the Forces which rendezvous'd at Albany that care likewise fell upon Mr Clinton without any instructions how to behave in such case Here a number of undissiplin'd men were together great numbers of them probably transported Felons all arm'd several companies without provisions & all of them without pay All their Camp equipage & necessaries for their March by land & water into the Ennemies Country to be provided without any directions on that head but what he took from the necessity of the Service. The Govr remain'd at Albany under these difficulties above 3 months in which a malignant fever raged all the time of which as many daily died considering the numbers of the inhabitants as have in places infected with the plague At the same time none durst go without view of the Sentries but in danger of being barbariously murder'd by the ennemy Sculking Indians as several were who unadvisedly adventur'd further. I shared with the Govr in all these difficulties with this additional hardship of neglecting all my private affairs without any allowance either for my service or expences for the Council of New York have no allowances for their Services either from the King or the Country

You know what the Govr did as to the Indians by the printed account which you have seen After no hopes remain'd of the Arival of the fleet so as that the season of the year could permit them to proceed to Canada a plan was concerted at Albany to attack the French fort at Crown point with the forces then at Albany to which 2000 of the New England forces were to be added which would have made a body of 5000 effective men.

[1] Sir William Gooch, Lieutenant-Governor of Virginia.

From the best informations we could obtain there were not more than about 12000 men in Canada able to bear arms. Canada extends along St. Lawrence River about 200 miles in lenth on each side of the river & the Settlements are no where above six miles from the river So that there must be a vast extent of Frontier to defend & from ye best &c. By this plan 1000 Indians were to be sent in in small parties through the whole extent of the Country By the incursions of these barbarous ennemies it was presumed that the French would be disabled from drawing any body of men together for the relief of Crown point Another 1000 Indians was to go along with the Forces to scour the woods & prevent surprises or falling into Ambuscades This plan was communicated to Mr Shirley & Admiral Waren who both of them approved of it & all who have seen it so far as I know or have hear'd were of opinion that it could not have faild of success The forces were all in readiness to march when the Arival of the French Squadron on the coast of Nova Scotia put a stop to it You know I suppose that this French fort at Crown point was built in the time of the last peace upon the K of Gr Brittains Territory & that from this all the incursions were made on the Brittish Colonies during the war & This fort must be taken before a body of men can with any safety march into Canada by land.

This enterprise being now stopt the Govr was desirous to do every thing that could be don with the forces at Albany & for this purpose he for security of the Frontiers & annoyance of the Ennemy resolv'd to march them to the Carrying place above Sarahtoga A pass between Albany & Canada by which the forces must march in their way to Canada & by this likewise or near it all the Ennemy's parties make their incursions on our Frontiers There under the cover of these Forces he intended to make a small fortified Camp in which he intended to leave at least 500 men all Winter If the Expedition had gon on this must have been don to secure the communication with the Forces by land that march against

Canada Doing it now was doing so much in advance for next year & in the mean time it would more than any thing else that could be don secure the Frontiers from the Incursions of the ennemy & would be of great use in sending out parties for the annoyance of the Ennemy & obtaining intelligence The Assembly had put the Provisions for subsistence of the Forces rais'd in this Colony into the hands of their Commissioners at Albany it was necessary to know whether they would take care of the Provisions on the March & while the forces were at the Carrying place & therefor the Govr directed me to ask them whether they would or not I told them that as the Assembly had intrusted them the Govr was desirous they should continue in that service but if they refused he would be under a necessity of apointing some others On which they objected that the Assembly had made no provision for the transportation of the provisions & they could not take that charge upon themselves To which I answer'd that as the Assembly had undertaken to find their forces with Provisions in the intended expedition the transportation of those provisions seem'd necessary incident But they were not willing to trust to the Assembly & upon this I had the Gov^{rs} assurance that if the Assembly did not make provision for this charge he would pay it And upon this assurance they said they were willing to take care of the Provisions on the March & at the Carrying place Upon which the Governor gave his orders for the March of the forces & for erecting the Fortification at the carrying place & then left the place after above 3 months stay in it as before observ'd it being necessary for him to meet the Assembly at New York

After he was gon the commanding officer had every thing in readiness when the Assembly's Commiss^{rs} refus'd to give out any provisions for their March on which after having held a Council of War they took by force out of the publick stores as much Provision as was necessary for the March & gave or at least offer'd to give a receipt for it as every Captn declared himself willing to

give for what share each had for the use of his Company How the Assembly's Commiss^{rs} came to change their mind after the Govr left Albany I know not but that it seems probable they had been tamper'd with in some manner or other. The Season of the year was far advanced before the Govr could take this resolution of marching the troops to the carrying place for it could not be don till after he was assured that the French squadron had left the coast & this obstruction of the Provisions delay'd so much that when the forces came to Sarahtoga the officers concluded that the men would not be able to bear the Cold in the night so long as would be necessary to make the Fortifications which the Govr had order'd to be made at the carrying place & therefore stopt short there & only enlarged & added some new wooden bastions to an old fort there tho' the most disadvantageously scituated that any place could be for defence in a low unhealthy bottom every where surrounded by hills from whence the men on the parade could be seen to the soles of their feet. The forces return'd to Albany leaving a double Garrison at Sarahtoga when the Forces were order'd to March to the Carrying place Several parties of Indian were sent to make incursions on the Frontiers of Canada which was don with the view of perplexing the ennemy as to our design in marching our forces to the Carrying place & to prevent their sending any force sufficient to disturb our men while they were at work These parties made the French desert a greater Tract of Territory than had been deserted by the inhabitants of New York as we were after the cessation of Arms informd by persons that were sent to Canada for the exchange of Prisoners

When nothing further could be don the Govr order'd the Forces to Garison a line of small forts quite a cross the Northern Frontiers & a patrole to go every day from one fort to another so that while the snow was on the ground nothing could pass without being observ'd So far as I can judge there was nothing more in the power of the Governor to do than what he did either for an-

noyance of the Ennemy or for security of the Province neither have I heard any one mention that thing that could have been don more than he did & I have good reason to believe that if any proposal had been made to him for either of these purposes it would have been receiv'd with candour & all due attention to it but no one was made

Notwithstanding of this the Faction at New York (at the head of which it is well known Chief Justice De Lancey was) were industrious in propagating the most malicious & base slanders of the Governor among the People & particularly that his Treaty with the Indians was all grimace & without sincerity That the Indians had no intention to enter into the War & would not. For this reason it was thought proper to publish a circumstantial account of that Treaty (which you have seen) & likewise to bring the first Indian party to New York which had made incursions into Canada & to allow them to make a procession through the streets with their prisoners & scalps after the Indian manner that the people might be convinced by their own eyes of the falsity of the stories which had been propogated among them

Immediately after the Govr return'd from Albany he met the Assembly & that he might as far as in his power prevent any misunderstandings at this time he sent to the Chief Justice a copy of what he intended to say to the Assembly for his opinion & advice . The Chief Justice after having kept it 2 or 3 days return'd it without saying any thing to it I then advised the Govr to send for the Chief Justice & to ask his opinion & advice by themselves which he did The Chief Justice again carried the speech with him to consult as he said with some others of the Council his friends After some time he again return'd it with his approbation of the Speech so far as the Govr understood him at least he made no objection to any part of it The Govr likewise communicated it to the Speaker of the Assembly who very frankly declared his Approbation of it & I

believe did it sincerely for he was not then let into the Secrets of the Cabal I mention all these things particularly because from the Assembly's answer to this speech the dissensions in this province began to make their publick appearance & I think the Govrs conduct in this shews that he endeavour'd to avoid them

Among other things this Session the Assembly Voted me a Delinquent & that the attorney General should be directed to prosecute me as such for a person of my rank & influence (as they were pleas'd on this occasion to say) to threaten to turn out Commissrs apointed by the Assembly tho' nothing more appear'd to the house on their examination into that matter than what I before mention'd that I told the Comrs that the Govr would be under a necessity to apoint others to take care of the Provisions if they refused to do it & in truth nothing else could appear I shall not trouble you with these contentions which appear too much on the Votes of the Assembly but shall leave the papers on each side to speak for themselves & go on to give you an account of things rather than of Words

Some time before or about the time of the meeting of the Assembly Mr Shirley sent a proposal from his Govt to Govr Clinton desiring that Comrs may be apointed by the several Colonies in North America to meet together to concert some plan for their joining together in the prosecution of the War & mutual defence of the Colonies & for settling the Quota of each Govt for carrying on this Service. Tho' I believe neither Mr Shirley nor Mr Clinton expected any success from such a congress yet they both yield to it. None of the Colonies to the Southward of this sent Comrs The Comrs of Massachusets Bay & Connecticut only met the Comrs of New York at New York & here they Treated together more like the Ministers of independent States than the subjects of the same Prince & as nothing happen'd in consequence of this Treaty I shall say no more of it

In the Winter following a Proposal came from Boston for attacking the French Fort at Crown point with the

Forces of the New England Colonies & of New York But this enterprise appear'd to be so hazardous at that Season of the year that Both New York & Connecticut refused to join in it It was proposed to be carried on in the Month of February in that Month the Weather is the most uncertain in this Climate of any Month of the year Sometimes it is so excessively cold that it was apprehended the men could not be able to withstand under all the precaution that could be taken to defend them against it At other times a sudden thaw happens and as it was proposed that the Forces were to march on the Ice on this case the thaw might happen with most unhappy circumstances & it was thought that whether the Frost continued or not the Enmemy must have the advantage over us at this season

In the Spring of the year following Govr Clinton & Govr Shirley agreed to prosecute the plan for attacking Crown Point which had been concerted at Albany the summer before & that Plan having been approved off by the Councils both of New York & Massachusets Bay Preparations were made both at New York & Massachusets Bay for putting it in Execution Twelve hundred Indians were actually on their March to Albany to join the forces there There was one thing more added to it on the part of New York which was to be prosecuted by New York seperately from the other Colonies & which was thought of great consequence for inlargeing the Brittish commerce among the Indians & they had a most favourable opportunity at this time to put in Execution

Oniagara is a most noted pass for carrying on the Trade through all the Great inland lakes & among the numerous Indian nations which border upon them Every thing which is carried to or from these nations either from New York or Canada must pass by a small fort which the French have there in which they constantly keep a small Garrison This Fort was built since the Peace of Utricht tho it be in the Territory of the Five Nations who by that Treaty of Peace were declared sub-

jects of Great Brittain before that time the French had only a simple trading house or store house there. The Missisague Indians a numerous nation that lives on the North side of the Lake Huron & who have great influence on the neighbouring nations had some misunderstanding with the French about the time the War broke out & at the last Treaty at Albany sent Deputies thither as was taken notice of in the printed acc't of that Treaty who join'd with the Five nations in declaring War against the French in Canada. They kill'd a French officer & sixty men at Detroit a place between lake Erie & Hurons lake where the French have a settlement & at the time I am now writing of they had blocked up the Fort at Oniagara & had put an entire stop to the French Commerce in those parts & which was of the last consequence to them.

The Govr having information of these things resolv'd to attack this Fort at Oniagara at the same time that Crown point was to be attacked & to take possession of it Four hundred men with four ps of Cannon six pounders were thought sufficient together with the Misissague & other Indians that he was assured would join them to effect this. By the Plan the men employ'd in these two Services were to be paid by the Crown & the Artillery Arms & Ammunition &c likewise to be found by the Crown the Provisions & the Transportation to be at the Charge of the Colonies. It became then necessary for the Govr to apply to the Assembly for their proportion of this Charge The Assembly's answer was in effect that they could not grant the Supply unless the whole design & plan of Operations were laid before them that they might Judge of the plans being well concerted It is too evident that the members of our Assembly are no judges of any thing of that kind yet there was a more material objection that if the plan of Operations had been communicated to them they must have become the next day the common subject of discourse of the whole town & must without doubt have been very soon discover'd to the ennemy & for that

reason the Council advised the Govr by no means to disclose the plan Notwithstanding that the enterprise was in general explain'd to several of their members the Assembly remain'd obstinate & refused to make provision for the expence of any interprise unless they were let into the whole secret of the affair And by this obstinacy both these Interprises were dropt. The Govr was under a necessity to send to stop the Indians who were in full March towards Albany This gave them such Jealousies of us that had like to have had bad consequences by the impressions it made on their minds & gave the Govr much trouble to prevent

The forces at Albany remaining thus without Action disapointed of all their hopes of conquest & plunder without any pay from the time they were levied & allmost naked without cloaths began to mutiny The Govr had no directions as to their pay & had put them off for some time with the expectation of his receiving some directions about it early in the Spring but now a twelvemonth being passed without any direction or order taken the men began openly to threaten to take their pay by plundering the Country The Governor than applied to the Council & Assembly for advice & assistance both answer'd him that there was no other method but for him to take up the money from the Merchants by his Bills on the Treasury of Great Brittain He than insisted that as he had no directions to draw or to pay that he be indemnified in case of none payment of the Bills as he had no advantage by it & it was don for the Preservation of the Colony But this was refused & no merchant would let him have any money but on his Bills drawn in the usual form of a Bill of Excha^{ge} by which his person & estate were made security for the payment While these Altercations continued between the Govr & the Assembly the soldiers grew more & more mutinous the inhabitants of Albany & of the neighbourhood became exceedingly apprehensive of the mischiefs they were thereby exposed to and likewise the Frontiers were in danger of being totally deserted & ex-

posed to a barbarous & cruel ennemy who could not remain long ignorant of these disorders among our Forces The Govr then sent out his Orders to the Several Reg^{ts} of Militia in this Province to choose every tenth man by lot to hold himself in readiness to March on an hours warning This was industriously represented every where as an act of Despotic & Tyranical power assumed by the Govr without any Act of Assembly to support him in it Even messengers were sent on purpose into the several Counties to influence the People & thereupon a general disobedience to these orders ensued

In this & in several other Instances the Assembly made use of the necessity of the Service to free themselves from the expence attending it & to throw that Charge on the Crown & likewise to weaken the Gov^{rs} Authority. For they not only gave out that if any sinister accident happen'd the Govr would be answerable for it but by some persons infuseing into the minds of the people not only that the Govr ought to pay but that he had actually receiv'd the money for the payment of the men there was reason to fear that the Mob would rise & use violence with the Govr & those who were thought to advise him. The Govr was then forced to draw for the payment of All the forces which rendezvous'd at Albany Things remain'd in this state till about September when the Govr receiv'd orders for the disbanding of these forces & these were the only orders he receiv'd since the first orders for the levying of them

It was evident that upon disbanding of these forces the frontiers must be naked & exposed to the ennemy The Govr therefore told the Assembly that if they would continue the officers & men on the same pay which they had from the King he would engadge to retain any number of them they were willing to pay This they refused but voted to keep 800 men on a plan of their own by which the Captains pay was to be reduced to 8/ of this Currency & in proportion the subaltern officers and the mens pay to be doubled which was not more

than common tradesmen & day labourers earn in this Country The Govr set forth to them that on this plan of theirs the expence of mentaining such a body of men would be greater [than] on the plan he proposed as appear'd by a state of the charges on both plans And that he could not engage to retain the number proposed upon that plan besides loosing all the Captains & officers he could confide in who absolutely refused to serve upon the Assembly's terms But the Assembly remain'd obstinate and after he had allow'd them to employ what persons they pleased to inlist men they could not retain above 500 men & the Govr was under a necessity to levy the other 300 men in Connecticut during the Winter at a still greater expence & these new men whereas if the Govr had retain'd those he proposed by their being in the service above 12 months had learn'd some degree of Discipline they would have been of much more use From the disbanding of ye forces we were only on the defensive & the ennemy being freed from any fears of any attempts upon them more freely made their incursions on our frontiers & we had suffer'd exceedingly if the suspension of Arms had not very opertunely deliver'd us from farther attempts upon us

Now since the Peace the French are sending out large parties of men to destroy the Indian nations formerly their friends but who join'd with us in the last war while the Governor of New York for want of money is disabled to give them any Protection the Consequences of which may be very bad & destructive of the Brittish influence among the Indian Nations every where

It is computed that the Northern Colonies including Virginia to the Southward have at least two hundred & fifty thousand men able to bear Arms & that the New England Colonies & New York have at least four times the number of men that Canada has & New York alone above four times the quantity of money None here doubt that the New England Colonies & New York are sufficient of themselves to reduce Canada without any other assistance from Great Brittain but Ammunition &

Arms some good officers & a Squadron of ships to prevent relief from Europe The Conquest of Louisbourgh was a much more difficult attempt being a much Stronger fortification than any in Canada & at Louisburgh no Indians could be imploy'd whereas they would be of the greatest Service against Canada And the English can bring a greater number into the field than the French can

How comes it then you'l say that so litle has been don this War It is entirely owing to the Defects in the Government of the Colonies which if not timely lookt into & remedied will produce mischiefs of a different kind & among other mischiefs an entire destruction of morals

As to the facts which I have advanced full proof of them may be found on the Minutes of the Council & Votes of the Assembly And yet notwithstanding of this you'l not easily I believe be perswaded that any people could be prevail'd on to act against what is so apparently for their Interest But you must have before now observ'd what Faction has at times don in every Country & that you may better understand how it has been enabled to work in this Country I must observe to you 1 That the generality of our Assembly consists of men of the lowest rank of People & very ignorant who greedily swallow every story to the prejudice of their Superiors 2 The far greatest numbers of the People in North America are of levelling or of Republican principles the most considerable families being the descendents of Independents & other Dissenting religious Societies or originally foreigners (in New York especially) from Holland who know as yet so litle of the English Constitution that great numbers of them do not understand the language 3 In New York there was another consideration which had a strong influence in every thing relating to War with Canada In the time of Queen Anne's War the People of this Province by means of the Indians on both sides made a kind of Neutrality between them and Canada by which they carried on a most beneficial trade & by it several rich families

got their estates During that War this Province remain'd in Peace the Farmers at the plow on their frontiers while New England was in many places desolated with fire & sword & sometimes so near our borders as to be seen from thence The French Indians brought their plunder often to Albany & were there again refitted Great numbers at this time were desirous to live in the same manner in safety & with such advantages in trade while the commerce between France & Canada was obstructed by sea in the last War Now then if there be man unsatiably ambitious in such a Country as this with the advantage of Power & riches a Man who thinks every thing right that serves his purpose however base & dishonourable it be in itself & who has resolution enough to stick at no means that serve his Designs you may believe that such a man with such tools as I have mentioned may do strange things And Sr Such kind of men (even under the mask of men of honour) are more frequent then people who are not well acquainted with the World can imagine

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To John Colden

New York July 16th 1749

Dear John

I have yours of the 6th You need not make any excuse or have the least uneasiness in writing frequently to me for I shall allwise be well pleas'd with it tho' I may not have time to answer your letters But at this time you may be assured I think your writing necessary & I went both to Mr Alexander & Mr Nicholls on what is the Subject of your letter & the result of their opinion is

That you should be very carefull in refusing a writ because they may either come on you for Damages which may be very great or prosecute as a Breach of your Duty or both. I suppose that you did not refuse the writts

but only insisted on your fees before you deliver'd it. Mr Alexander & Mr Nicholls both say that the shilling more upon an alias or pluries was never refused by any attorney in this place And if there be not some entry of the Sheriffs return either non est or quia Vic. non comisit breve that is because the Sheriff has not return'd the Writ an Alias does not properly issue If he insists upon a writ without such entry or return give him a Writ without an alias in it & then he will loose the Benefit of his former writ If any entry be made you are entituled to your fee Mr Nicholls says that when a writ is not return'd the regular practise is a writ to command the Sheriff to make his return but the practise is a new writ with that entry of the Sheriffs not having return'd his writ tho' he thinks that this method is not regular. In this case of the writs you are never to refuse the writ but make it out & then refuse delivering till you receive your fee. I do not see how it comes that your Bills are taxed or need to be taxed if you receive your fee when the work is don & you are to insist on this as much as possible Both Mr Alexr & Nicholls say you ought not to make any agreemt with the Attorneys. If Your Judges Acted regularly they would leave the taxing of the Attorneys Bills of Cost to the Clerk as is don in this Town & also in England If the business of the Courts stop by their not taking out of writts they will be sooner tir'd than you but if it stop by your refusing to make out the Writts it may be dangerous to you & therefore be carefull as to this particular

If you do any service not particularly allow'd for in the Ordinance you are not withstanding to demand & take a reasonable fee In this all agree As to the other matters in your Letter I will advise with Coll Johnson & I believe something will be don that your friends will like inclosed is a letter from Coldengham they were well on the 13th I am in perfect health &

Your affectionate father

CADWALLADER COLDEN

CONRAD WEISER TO RICHARD PETERS.

HEIDLEBERG, *Aprile the 28th*, 1719.

SIR:—I hope these few lines will prevent the trouble of hearing a long storry, therefore I make Bold to offer them to you, the case is thuse: old Heinry Smith, the Indian trader, some years ago Bought a small Improvement of one Hinary Teller and paid for it; soon after he agreed with one John Jones to let it to him for so much a year, and if the said Jones could pay the sum of 25 pound, Smith was to sign over the right he had of Henry Teller by a bill of sale; Jones paid neither rent, Interest nor Capital; Smith sold the place to one Adam Earlywine, the Bearer hereof, whom Jones suffered to take possession; and when Earlywine was busy with plowing, Jones went to Philadelphia to the land office and took out a Warrant for fifty acres and paid part of the consideration money, or perhaps all. Smith had neglected to take out a warrant. The place lies between other survey'd land, and all patented, to about 80, or 90, or 100 acres, which has hitherto been vacant. The Bearer prays the Improvement, with about 40 or 50 acres, might be granted to him in right of Heinry Smith, who has his bonds for 31 pounds for the Improvement, or if he must go off again, that Smith might be obliged to give up his bonds and somebody pay something for his trouble in moving to and from the place. This is all at present wherewith I trouble you. I hope you will pardon my freedom, who am,

Sir, Your very obedient,
CONRAD WEISER.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CONRAD WEISER, ESQUIRE, INDIAN INTERPRETER, FOR THE PROVINCE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The Honourable James Hamilton, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor & Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of New Castle, Kent & Sussex, on Delaware.

To Conrad Weiser, Esquire, Indian Interpreter for the said Province & Counties, Greeting:

The Circumstances of the Province requiring that more land should be purchased from the Indians, you are hereby instructed in the most prudent manner possible to sound the three Seneca Chiefs on this important Point, and if they show any favourable Inclination themselves, & give you any reason to believe that the overture will be agreeable to the Council of the Six Nations, you may charge them with a Message to the Council to be conceived in such Terms as by talking with them you shall think will be more likely to obtain success.

As ye whole depends on the Inclinations of the Indians, it is impossible for me to give any other directions than that you proceed with the utmost care & caution, endeavouring in your previous conversation with these Chiefs to apprize them of the necessity & expediancy of such a Purchase, so as to make ye first motion come from them, and let * * * * before mentioned to be so in your Message, for should the Indians discover that ye Prop'tys want to buy, & that they are the first movers, they would but be the more averse, and insist on higher Terms. You should likewise consider that the Lands to be sold should be of a proper Extent, not an insignificant part of ye Country, but such as will answer ye natural increase of ye inhabitants & ye multitude of foreigners w'ch may be expected to come over now as peace is concluded. A regard should likewise be had to the situation of ye new purchase, as Encroachments are daily making by Maryland and Virginia on ye Western Frontiers of this Province, and Grants it is said are applied for, w'ch may interfere w'th ye Lands of ye Province in those parts. I should be of Opinion that this new Purchase should extend so far West as to give the Prop'tys an opportunity of running their South & Western Lines, and securing their Lands there by making settlements in proper places. Whatever you do in consequence of this Instruction I enjoin you Imediately to send me an account of it, y't it may be transmitted to the Prop'tys by ye first Conveyance.

Given under my Hand & Seal at Arms, at Philadelphia, this 7th Day of July, 1749.

JAMES HAMILTON.

(L.S.) The Honourable James Hamilton Esq.r Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pensylvania and Counties of New Castle, Kent & Sussex on Delaware.

To Conrad Weiser Esq.r Indian Interpreter for the Said Province & Counties Greeting.

The Circumstances of the Province requiring that more Land should be purchas'd from the Indians, you are hereby Instructed in the most prudent manner possible to sound the three Seneca Chiefs on this important Point, and if they shew any favourable Inclinations themselves & give you any reason to believe that the Overture will be agreable to the Council of the Six Nations, you may charge them with a Message to the Council to be conceived in such Terms as by talking with them you shall think will be most likely to obtain Success.

As the whole depends on the inclinations of the Indians, it is impossible for me to give any other directions than that you proceed with the utmost Care & caution endeavouring in your previous Conversation with these Chiefs to apprize them of the necessity & expediency of such a Purchase, so as to make the first motion come from them, & let this if proper be mentioned to be so in your Message, for should the Indians discover that the Proprietaries want to buy, & that they are the first movers they would but be the more averse & insist on higher Terms — You should likewise consider that the Lands to be sold should be of a proper extent not an insignificant part of the Country but such as will answer the natural increase of the Inhabitants & the multitude of Foreigners which may be expected to come over now a Peace is concluded — a regard should likewise be had to the Situation of the new Purchase as encroachments are daily making by Maryland & Virginia on the Western Frontiers of this Province, & Grants thereof said and applied for which may interfere with the Limits of the Province in those parts. I should be of opinion that this new Purchase should extend so far West as to give the Proprietors an opportunity of running their South & Western Lines & securing the Lands there by making Settlements in proper Places. Whatever you do in consequence of this Instruction I enjoin you secrecy and immediately to send

Send me an account of it that it may be transmitted to the Proprietors by the first Conveyance. Given under my Hand & Seal at Arms at Philad.a this Seventh Day of July 1749.

James Hamilton

For the Instruction
the Governor &
Waiver relating
a Purchase from the
Indians

A Peters

24th July 1749

12.

To The Honourable James Hamilton Esq.r Lieutenant Governor & Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania & Counties of New Castle Kent & Sussex on Delaware.

To Conrad Weiser Esq.r Indian Interpreter for the said Province & Counties Greeting.

The Circumstances of the Province requiring that more Land should be purchased from the Indians, you are hereby Instructed in the most prudent manner possible to sound the Three Seneka Chiefs on this important Point, and if they shew any favourable Inclinations themselves & give you any reason to believe that the Overture will be agreable to the Council of the Six Nations, you may charge them with a Message to the Council to be conceived in such Terms as by talking with them you shall think will be most likely to obtain Success.

As the whole depends on the Inclinations of the Indians, it is impossible for me to give any other directions than that you proceed with the utmost care & caution endeavouring in your previous Conversation with these Chiefs to approve them of the necessity & expediency of such a Purchase, so as to make the first motion come from them and to manage so that this may be the reason assigned for the Message, for should the Indians discover that the Proprietors want to buy & that they are the first movers they would but be themore averse and insist on higher Terms. You should likewise consider that the Lands to be sold should be of a proper extent & not an insignificant part of the Country but such as will answer the natural encrease of the Inhabitants & the multitude of Foreigners which may be expected to come over now a Peace is concluded – a regard should likewise be had to the Situation of the ones Purchase, as encroachments are daily making by Maryland & Virginia on the Western Frontiers of this Province & Grants it is said are applied for which may interfere with the limits of the Province in those parts, I should be of opinion that this new Purchase should extend so far West as to give the Proprietors an opportunity of running their South & Western Lines & securing the

the Lands there by making Settlements in proper Places. Whatever you
do in consequence of this Instruction I enjoin you immediately to send
me an account of it that it may be transmitted to the Proprietors by the
first Conveyance.

Given under my Hand and Seal at Arms at Philadelphia
this Seventh Day of July in the Year 1749.

James Hamilton

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Pennsylvania, 1749.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Tuesday 18th July 1749.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esqr. Lieutenant Governor

Samuel Hasell, Robert Strettell, Richard Peters } Esqrs
Thomas Hopkinson

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor laid before the Board the Draught of a Proclamation agreable to the Request of the Seneca Deputies at the last Treaty, which was approved & ordered to be published & printed.

By the Honourable James Hamilton Esqr. Lieutenant Governor & Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania & Counties of New Castle Kent & Sussex on Delaware,

A Proclamation

Whereas the Deputies of the Senekas, at a Treaty lately held at Philad.a complained to me, in behalf of the Six United Nations, that contrary to the Tenor of a former Treaty now subsisting between them & this Government, & without their Consent, divers Persons, Inhabitants of this Province, have seated themselves & Families on Lands not purchased of them, lying Westward of the Blue Hills very much to their Hurt; earnestly prayed that they should be forthwith removed, to prevent the bad Consequences that might otherwise ensue. And forasmuch as these Persons have neither Licence from the Proprietaries nor colour of Title to the said Lands, & to permit them to stay there, would not only be a breach of the Publick Faith given to the Six Nations, but may occasion dangerous Quarrels with them, & be the Cause of much Bloodshed: Therefore for preventing these Mischiefs I have thought fit, with the advice of the Council, to issue this Proclamation. Do hereby in His Majesty's Name, strictly charge, command and enjoin all & every the Persons who have presumed to settle in any part of the Province Westward of the Blue Hills to remove themselves, their Families & Effects, off those Lands on or before the first Day of November next: And in Case of their Neglect or Refusal, I do in His Majesty's Name strictly charge & command all & every the Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs & Officers within this Province, whose Assistance may be necessary, that they immediately after the said first Day of November, cause the Delinquents, with their Families & Effects to be removed off the said Lands as the Law in such Cases directs. And hereof all Persons concerned are to take Notice, and not to fail in their obedience, as they will answer the contrary at their Peril.

Given under my Hand, & the Great Seal of the Province of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia this Eighteenth Day of July, in the Twenty third Year of

Pennsylvania 1749.

of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second, King of Great Britain France and Ireland &c.a And in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred Forty nine.

James Hamilton

By His Honour's Command,
Richard Peters Secretary.

God save the King.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Tuesday 8.th August 1749.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esq.r Lieutenant Governor

Thomas Lawrence, Abraham Taylor
Robert Strettell, Richard Peters } Esq.rs

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approv'd.

The Governor having prepar'd a Message to the Assembly on the Subject of the late Treaty with the Deputies of the Seneca Nation the same was read, & order'd to be deliver'd to the House by the Secretary, together with a Copy of the Minutes of Council containing that Treaty.

Gentlemen,

Some Affairs relating to this Province having been the Subject of the consultations of the Six Nation Indians at their Annual Council held in the Spring of the Year at Onondago, it was there resolv'd to send a Deputation to this City to consist of a few of the Chiefs of every Nation, and particular Time and Place of Rendezvous was agreed on; in Consequence whereof the Deputies of the Senecas came there at the time appointed & staid a whole Month: but the other Deputies not coming, & they hearing no Tidings about them, concluded they were prevented by some unforeseen Accident, & therefore being so far on their Journey they determined to pay a visit to their Brethren of this Province, & so came here the beginning of the last Month. I refer you to the Minutes of Council, which will be herewith deliver'd to You for their Business. As the Province had been put to some Expence by them, they were told on their Departure, if they met the other Deputies, to inform them what they had done here, & perswade them to return; & it seems they did meet them, but whether they deliver'd this Message or not I have no account; if they did, it had no Effect, for they are now on the Road & expected here every Day. You will therefore be pleased to take the necessary Care for their Reception.

Mr. Wiser having defrayed the Expences of the last Indians in their Journey to and from this City, I advanc'd him the Sum of Sixty Pounds on his going away: He must by this time have laid out a considerable Sum more, which you will be

ernor to order their Guns to be mended, he gave Orders accordingly.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday, 18th July, 1749.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Samuel Hasell, Robert Strettell, } Esqrs.
Thomas Hopkinson, Richard Peters, }

The Minutes of the preceeding Council were read and approv'd.

The Governor laid before the Board the Draught of a Proclamation, agreeable to the Request of the Seneca Deputies at the last Treaty, which was approv'd & order'd to be publish'd & printed.

"By the Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor & Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania & Counties of New Castle, Kent, & Sussex, on Delaware.

"A PROCLAMATION.

"*Whereas*, The Deputies of the Senekas, at a Treaty lately held at Philada., complained to me, in behalf of the Six United Nations, that contrary to the Tenor of a former Treaty now subsisting between them & this Government, & without their Consent, divers Persons, Inhabitants of this Province, have seated themselves & Families on Lands not purchased of them, lying Westward of the Blue Hills, very much to their Hurt, earnestly prayed that they should be forthwith remov'd, to prevent the bad Consequences that might otherwise ensue. And forasmuch as these Persons have neither Lycence from the Proprietaries nor colour of Title to the said Lands, & to permit them to stay there wou'd not only be a breach of the Publick Faith given to the Six Nations, but may occasion dangerous Quarrels with them, & be the Cause of much Bloodshed; Therefore for preventing these Mischiefs I have thought fit, with the advice of the Council, to issue this Proclamation; & do hereby, in His Majesty's Name, strictly charge, command, and enjoin all & every the Persons who have presum'd to settle in any part of the Province Westward of the Blue Bills to remove themselves, their Families & Effects, off those Lands on or before the first Day of November next; And in Case of their Neglect or Refusal, I do, in His Majesty's Name, strictly charge & command all & every the Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, & Officers within this Province, whose Assistance may be necessary, that they, immediately after the said first Day of November, cause the Delinquents, with their Families and Effects, to be removed off the said Lands, as the Law in such Cases directs. And hereof all Persons con-

cerned are to take Notice, and not to fail in their obedience, as they will answer the contrary at their Peril.

"Given under my Hand & the Great Seal of the Province of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, this Eighteenth Day of July, in the Twenty-third Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord, George the Second, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, &c. And in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred & forty-nine.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"By His Honour's Command,

"RICHARD PETERS, Secretary.

"GOD SAVE THE KING."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday, 8th August, 1749.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Abraham Taylor, } Esqrs.
Robert Strettell, Richard Peters, }

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approv'd.

The Governor having prepar'd a Message to the Assembly on the Subject of the late Treaty with the Deputies of the Seneca Nation, the same was read & order'd to be deliver'd to the House by the Secretary, together with a Copy of the Minutes of Council containing that Treaty.

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Alex Colhoun's Deposition

said Exe^lly the Honble George Clinton meaning) *is a dam^d Rogue a dam^d . . . fellow the worst Governour that ever was in this Province,* (the Province of New York meaning) *That all the People about him* (his Majesty's Council of this Province and the Magistrates and Officers and other his said Majesty's good and faithfull Subjects within this Province meaning) *are a pack of damd Scoundrels. The Governour* (his

Franc:Smyth

said Exellency the hon^ble George Clinton meaning) *is a scrub. BY GOD I* (himself the said Oliver meaning) *say the Governour* (his said Exellency the hon^ble George

Cummins's Deposition

Clinton meaning) *is an arrant Villain Scoundrel and Rascal. I* (himself the S^d Oliver meaning) *call him so, and so are all and every Man*

Jno Woolaston

(his said Majesty's Council of this Province and the Magistrates and officers, & others his said Majestys good & faithfull Subjects, within this Province meaning) *Villains, Scoundrels and Rascals And I* (himself the s^d Oliver meaning) *say the Governeur* (his said Excellency the hon^ble George Clinton meaning) *and every man that keeps him company* (his Majestys Council of this Province and the Magistrates & Officers, and other his Majesty's good and faithfull Subjects, who keep his said Excellency the hon^ble George Clinton company meaning) *are Villains, Scoundrels and Rascals And go and tell the Governor* (his Excel-

lency the hon^ble George Clinton mean) *'I* himself the said Oliver meaning,) *call him so. And if I* (himself the said Oliver meaning,) *can any way bribe any person or persons to inform the Governour* (his said Excellency the hon^ble George Clinton meaning) *what I* (himself the said Oliver meaning) *have said I* (himself the s^d Oliver meaning) *will bribe him or them to deliver the Message.* In great and manifest contempt of our Lord the King now, and his Laws; and to the Scandal, Disgrace & Ignominy of his Said Majesty, & of his Government, and of his said Exellency the Honourable George Clinton, his said Majestys Governour, and of his said Majestys Council, Magistrates, Officers and others his good & faithfull Subjects within this Province, to the evil & pernicious Example of all others in the like Case to offend, and against the Peace of our Lord the King, his Crown and Dignity &c: Whereupon he the said attourney General of our said Lord the King for the same our Lord the King, prays the advise of this Court in the Premises, and the due process of the Law against the said Oliver De Lancey, in this part to be made, to answer to our Said Lord the King of and in the Premises: &c:

Cadwallader Colden to Governor William Shirley

[Copy]

New York July 25th 1749

To Govr Shirley

The honour you do me by yours of 26th of last month wherein you are pleas'd to give me your Excellency's approbation of my Conduct in assisting Govr Clinton fully compensates the injuries I receive from the Slander of a few Maliceous men

I have this comfort in my own breast that I am perswaded The Malice as to my character has not the least effect with men of Sense & No man who knows me entertains a Worse opinion of me on that acct On the contrary it has been often said these People establish Mr Colden's Character when the shew so much malice & inclination to find fault & yet are not able to point out one even after they have been publickly challeng'd to do it. My ennemies have with considerate men don more to establish my good Character than could otherwise have been don.

But notwithstanding of this if wicked men should succeed by the basest & most dishonourable means to the highest offices in the Government what effect must this have upon peoples minds & manners By such like men & by such like practices the best established Republics & Govts have been ruin'd As to this Govt I can give you a flagrant instance what effect the principles of these men have upon the minds & morals of their intimate friends there is not a man of this toun who knows O D & is not perswaded that he has rail'd at Govr Clinton & abus'd his Character allmost in every company & conversation wherein either Govr Clinton's name or the publick affairs have been mention'd & yet Phil. Vanhorn a constant botle Companion of his & present in the company when the Dispute happen'd with Dr Colhoun on his Examination before the Council on his oath which he had taken said that he did not remember ever to have heard Oliver De Lancey speak disrespectfully of the Govr This shocks every honest man of the Faction But Sr I believe the greatest hopes are from the Nemine Contradicente Resolves of the Assembly & from the Opinion they have that the ministry will think it prudent to comply with the humours of the People or that they may think that man the most capable to restore the Govt who has had such power to distress it. You know Sr What kind of Creature an American assembly is & yet you cannot have a sufficient conception of the Ignorance & mean spirit of the Dutch members here most of them

of the lowest rank of Artificers It requires but a small degree of Artifice to make them believe the greatest absurdities of a Governor, & I durst undertake that if 4 or 5 men were not in that house & others in their place to have all the Nem. Con's on the other side of the Question I am well assured that many of them at this time only want a leader to show their dissatisfaction with the present measures However inconsistent this may be thought yet your Excell^{y} is so well acquainted with American Assembly that I think you can believe it The Chief Justice's Commission of Lt Governor The Govr not being able to shew any thing from the Ministry are the two only things which at present supports the Faction & they make a very bad use of it I am well assured that the Generality of People are displeased with the proceedings of the assembly at this time & that few desire to have the Chief Justices Power enlarged but on the contrary all with a very small exception wish to have the wings of the De Lancey family clipt None tollerably acquainted in this place can doubt of this And you your self I am perswaded from the knowledge you have of men must believe it to be true But men not engaged in the publick disputes love their own quiet & are desirous of keeping themselves from a resentment which may be dangerous to them in many respects Some of my friends have told me that they would not undertake the trouble I have gone through these three years last past for a thousand pounds a year But if it shall once appear that the Chief Justice's Interest is not sufficient to support him in the Measures he has taken & that the King is resolv'd to support his Prorogative in the Plantations the publick affairs in this Government will soon have a different Appearance

You know too well S^{r} how much his Majesty's Service in the Plantations suffer'd during the last War by Factions & licentiousness & that the Factions in this Government prevented the putting in practise measures which must have effectually destroy'd the French Interest & Commerce among the Indians So that they could not

have recover'd it in many years if ever And you can better judge than I what consequences may be apprehended after this if this factious spirit in the Colonies be not suppressed

I have been near 30 years in the Council of this Province & longer conversant in the publick affairs of it & *in all that time* I do not remember that any publick money was drawn by any Govr from the Treasury & applied to any other use than what it was design'd for by the assembly that granted it except for a Perquisite which the Kings Auditor of his revenue claim'd & you know S^r^ what influence the Gov^rs^ were under at that time to make them do this This gave the first rise to the Clamour & I remember no other instance that can be given If Govr Clinton had made use of his power in drawing the least sum out of the Treasury contrary to the intent of the granters it cannot be doubted this assembly would have pointed it particularly out but no such thing has so much as been attempted On the Contrary I am perswaded that there has been more of the publick money converted to private use since the Assem^y^ assumed the sole power of issueing it than has been don in any shape by all or any of the Governors since I came into this Province I am so much perswaded of the truth of this that I could but the whole contraversy upon this single issue This evidently shews for what purpose Clamour & Slander has been so much propogated on this head & which the Faction knew must have a strong effect on ignorant people & others who are not well acquainted with the publick affairs of this Govern^t^

It may deserve the observation of his Majesty's Ministers that Virginea is the only Colony where there is a petual revenue for the Support of Gov^t^ I hear of no complaints in that Colony of their Governor of or any complaint the Govr makes of the People whereas great complaints are heard in every other Colony of the one or the other or of both

I believe a future assembly may be brought to consent to have the publick money issued by Warrant as

formerly but I doubt that any will consent to a revenue for years far less to a perpetual revenue because thereby they must loose that power & influence on a Governor that every member is fond of But I am of opinion that his Majesty's Quitrents of Lands in this Province if properly regulated would be more than sufficient for the support of the civil Governm[t] in it & therefore the State of his Majesty's Quitrents may deserve attention.

At the first settling of this Colony the lands were granted without fixing the rent but under such rent a should afterwards be established & these now commonly pay no rent as no rent has been established Others were to pay a bushel of Wheat for so much land as was thought sufficient for a Farm. The quitrents of the house lots in this town & Albany about a penny a foot front So the grants continued for several years till some families began to abound in money & found means to perswade succeeding Governors to make extravagant Grants of Lands under trifling Quitrents such as 100,000 or 200,000 Acres for 20 or 40s a year & some as the Proprietors now claim contain above a million of Acres. These Grants were made without any previous Survey as was usual & without mentioning the Quantity of Land but bounded by hills or Rivers under Indian names now not known with any certainty & thereby the Claimers of these lands extend them as they think fit who are now some of the principal Demagogues in oppressing the Administration. Since the year 1709 all lands have been granted at the rate of 2/6 proclaimed money for every hundred acres & regular Surveys are made previously to the Grant. It cannot well be imagined that any Governor made these Grants so prejudicial to his constituents interest merely in the Gayety of his heart but that some indirect means were made use of by the Grantees in obtaining of them I must think that a private person would in Chancery obtain relief against the Deeds of his attorney impower'd to sell lands where a fraud in the purchaser must be evident as where a purchase is made for less then a hundredth part of the Value

so I am perswaded the King in Chancery must have relief against the Grantee in the case of these Grants. But tho' the People be generally dissatisfied with these Grants & while a great part of the Province pays 2/6 Procl. Money Quitrent for every hundred Acres The Quitrent of another great part does not amount to one farthing for a hundred Acres Every one is sensible how prejudicial these excessive grants have been to the Settlement & improvement of this Colony & is the true reason why it is not near so populous & well cultivated as the neighbouring colonies either to the Southward or Northward of it Yet if Prosecutions in Chancery were set on foot in this Province where the Govr is Chancillor such clamour & Jealousy would be rais'd as might have bad effects Therefore I am of opinion that the most prudent method would be by application to Parliament & I think that a Parliament would give the King relief in a case where the Equity of it is of it self so manefest

About the year 1726 I sent a Memorial to the Board of Trade wherein the state of the Quitrents is more particularly set forth & which was so much taken notice of by that Board that on what was represented in it An act for Partition of Lands in this Province was disallowd & repeal'd by the King

But I must inform your Excellency that any information of this kind I now make will be attended with such resentment as I choose to avoid & I believe I feel to this day the effects of that Memorial There are some in this Province capable of every thing that Cæsar Borgia was And therefore I must beg that nothing of this appear as from me in the publick offices

The office of Chief Justice has more influence on the public affairs in this Country than can well be imagined No man that has any Property can think himself independent of the Courts of Justice however carefull his behaviour in life may be There are in this Country numbers of Lawyers who's bread & fortune depend on the Countenance of a Chief Justice & who may serve as his emissaries & spies in every part of the Country When

then a Chief Justice puts himself at the head of a party in this Country he becomes as formidable at the head of the Laws as the Popes formerly were in the days of Ignorance at the head of the Monks & friers Two noted lawyers begging to be excused from appearing for the King agt O D is a strong evidence of this. The usage which I met with from Chief Justice DeLancey in a Committee of Council of the Particulars of which Govr Clinton has inform'd you & the Treatment that Govr Clinton's friends meet with on all occasions from him & his Brother shews how he makes use of the Power of his office to intimidate He told me in Conversation which was over heard by others & I believe still remember'd that I would find that a Chief Justice has more Power than a Governor A Chief Justice known to be of an implacable temper is a terrible thing is this Country. Chief Justices born in this Country have fallen into these party disputes either threw ambition or family interests & therefor it seems most for the due administration of Justice that the Chief Justice (at least) should be sent from England as was the practise formerly till about the year 1715 Chief Justice DeLancey's Commission during good behaviour is an obstruction to this but as all former Commissions to the Chief Justice were made out on the Kings Mandamus to the Govr for doing it & M^{r} DeLancey could not or did not obtain such Mandamus it may be askt whether a Commission under the great Seal of Great Brittain can supersede a Commission under the Seal of this Province tho' granted during good behaviour. Every man must know that it will be difficult in any case to convict a Chief Justice of Misbehaviour by a Jury & there is no other method in this Province to deprive him of that office whatever his conduct be

The Indian affairs deserve the most serious attention as not only a very considerable branch of the Brittish Commerce but likewise the Security of the Colonies in North America depends upon it They has been exceedingly neglected by the English while the French have applied indefatigable industry to promote their Interest

Seldom any have been imploy'd in manageing publick affairs with the Indians but a low ignorant set of mankind who were capable of no other views but that of promoting their private profit in Trade & which they have don by the most shamefull means so as to become contemptible in the eyes of the Indians Your Excellency is so well acquainted with these affairs that it is needless to enlarge upon them The strongest proof of what may be don appears by what Coll Johnson did last War & at this time The Govr of Canada has at this time sent out a considerable force with a view it is thought to chastise those nations who favour'd us in the late War & to obstruct the English commerce to the Westward He sent the Caknuaga's among the five Nations to incite them to make Wars on the Flatt heads & they would have gon if Coll Johnson had not prevented it By the information the Govr has from Oswego The Govr of Canada has not been able to perswade any one Nation of Indians to join with him no not so much as the Caknuagas who live near Montreal & were ingaged with him in the last War That only six single Indians are now gon with the French party The five Nations at the Conclusion of Any former War made Peace Seperately with the Govr of Canada & enter'd into Treaties & Negociations prejudicial to the Interest of the Crown of Great Brittain The Govr has hitherto stopt their going to Canada they have deliver'd up to him all the French prisoners that were in their hands & trust to him for obtaining the Liberty of their prisoners who are in Canada So that if he be not disabled by the assemblies refusing him sufficient supplies for this Service it is hopd this entering into Treaties between the Govr of Canada & the Six Nations may for the future be prevented

I am told that Sr Peter Waren has advised Coll Johnson who is his Nephew no longer to assist Govr Clinton in the Indian affairs & to decline all publick business & to attend only his own private affairs It is so much Coll

Johnson's interest to please his Uncle that it is expected he will submit to his Desire which the ingratitude of the Assembly might make him likewise incline to do. The Faction hereby hopes that the Indian affairs will return into the old channel of Comm^rs at Albany What is like to be the consequence of this your Excell^y from past experience can Judge as well as any man I've heard that Col^l Johnson has recommended Mr Lydeus to be Secretary for Indian affairs but I doubt of his being equal to this task In my opinion some person of known prudence should be imploy'd to superintend the Indian affairs with a sufficient allowance to support him in the execution of his Duty & to reside at Albany This officer to be immediately under the Direction of the Govr of New York but to Correspond with all the neighbouring Governors By this Method I think the Indians affairs may be soon brought into such a state that the Nation will reap great Benefite by it

We have at this instant a fresh instance in what manner the publick affairs suffer by the Assembly's assuming to themselves the whole executive powers The Govr told the assembly that unless he be enabled to send to Canada proper persons in order to obtain the Liberty of the Indians that are prisoners there the Six Nations are now at this time prepared to go to Canada to make submission to the French Govr & to enter into Treaties with him The assembly lays hold of the necessity of this Service & the knowledge they have of the Gov^rs good nature force him to put the Execution of it into their hands For this purpose they contrived on an open breach with the Govr & resolve that they cannot proceed on any Business till they receive Satisfaction as your Excell^y will more particularly see in the copies of the proceedings which I presume Govr Clinton will send to you As soon as this was don the Speaker came to the Govr to desire a Prorogation for a day or two after which if the Govr would wave the Kings instructions they would come to a resolution to furnish a sufficient sum

to defray the expense of sending to Canada by lodgeing a sum in two *persons* hands at Albany viz two of their own members for that purpose. The Govr said he could not see of what use a prorogation could be since he cannot in any manner recede from the Kings Instruction in what he before demanded but proposed to please them in saving appearances in their proceedings That they might direct the Treasurer to come into Council as of himself & others to offer to pay any Warrants to be drawn by the Govr with the advice & consent of the Council for this service not exceeding a certain sum to be agreed upon with the Assembly This the speaker said the house would not consent to not from any suspicion they had of misapplication but because it would be of bad example At the same time that the Govr cannot command a single farthing of the publick money for the most necessary Service he is told that the Speaker takes what sums he pleases for secret services Now from the whole of the proceedings this Session I believe your Excellency will think matters are brought to an issue for the Kings Determination whether his Instructions are to be obey'd or the Govt given up to a Faction in an Assembly

The Faction appears evidently to be under great Uneasiness They openly in the house blame me & me only for their being brought under these difficulties & say that I love a tyrannical form of Government &c & am desirous to introduce it The whole load of their resentment falls on me & my friends tell me that I am not even free from the Danger of a private stab from some persons

However inconsiderable Chief Justice DeLancey may think it proper to represent me to be yet as my whole conduct & behaviour since the Expedition agt Canada was first set on foot in this Country during the War & since the Conclusion of it is well known to your Excellency What Service I have endeavour'd to do his Majesty & what obstructions the Faction have laid in

the way of every service in prosecuting the War to advantage & how they were thereby render'd ineffectual & as I have so remarkably opposed & defeated the Usurpations of a most daring Faction on his Majesty's Prerogative the incouragement or Discouragement I may meet with will be a standing example for future times

The variety of publick affairs in which I am at this time imploy'd I hope will excuse the want of method & many inaccuracies which may appear in this The Zeal which you have on all occasions exerted in his Majesty's Service & the Indignation which I perswade my self every man of honour must conceive at the Wicked & Malicious attempts on Govr Clinton's Character & mine will incite your Excellency to represent these matters to his Majesties ministers so far as you think your self sufficiently inform'd of them & the dangerous consequences which you shall think may flow from this factious spirit that justice may be don to every one concern'd according to their Demerits

If your Excellency think as I hope you will that I have been in my Duty & deserve incouragement & Support from his Majesty's servants pray do me the honour of a line after you arive in England as it may be of the greatest use to me for my future conduct & please to send your letters either to some friend in Boston or under cover to Mr Benjn Franklin Post Master at Philadelphia for Letters by the post will come safe to my hands but any by ships directly to this place in the common bag are in danger from a set of letter pirates in this place

That your Excellency may have a happy Voyage be successfull in your affairs & be receiv'd by the King your Master with that favour which is justly due to your past services & known merit is the most sincere & hearty wish of

[Endorsed]
Ruff Draft of a Letter
to Govr SHIRLEY July 25 1749

A Certain Tract and Parcell of Land situate lying
and being within the following Limits & Bounds and —
thus described (viz. is to say) Beginning at the Hills or —
Mountains called in the Language of the Five Nation Indians
the Tyanuntarachta or Endless, and by the Delaware —
Indians the Indachtamy Hills on the East side of the —
River Susquehanah being in the Northwest line or —
Boundary of the Tract of land formerly purchased by the
Said Proprietaries from the said Indian Nations by their —
Deed of the 11th day of October Anno Domi 1736:; And —
from thence running up the said River by several Courses —
thereof to the first or nearest Mountain to the North side
of the Mouth of the Creek called in the Language of the Said —
Five Nation Indians Quitaquy and in the Language of —
the Delaware Indians Wiegeloway; And from thence
extending by a direct or Straight line to be run from the —
said Mountain on the North side of the said Creek to the Main —
Branch of Delaware River at the North side of the Mouth
of the Creek called Schaiyachsin And from thence to return
across that Creek down the River Delaware by the —
several Courses thereof to the Indachtamy Hills aforesaid;
And from thence by the Range of the said Hills to the Place
of Beginning as more fully appears in & by the Map or —
Draught hereto annexed in which the several Lines Courses —
— and —

and Boundarys of the s.d Tract are for y.e better
Explanation and Distinction thereof described in Red Lines
Hild also all the Lands of y.e s.d Rivers Susquehanah
and Delawars from More to More w.ch are opposite to y.e
s.d Tract of Land and all the Islands in the s.d Rivers
or either of them Together w.th Y.e

The Bounds of the New
Purchase made in August
1749

Pennsylvania 1749.

of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second, King of Great Britain France and Ireland &c. And in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred & forty nine.

James Hamilton

By His Honour's Command,
Richard Peters Secretary.

God save the King.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Tuesday 8th August 1749.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esq: Lieutenant Governor

Thomas Lawrence, Abraham Taylor, Robert Strettell, Richard Peters } Esqrs

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approv'd.

The Governor having prepar'd a Message to the Assembly on the Subject of the late Treaty with the Deputies of the Seneca Nation the same was read, & order'd to be deliver'd to the House by the Secretary, together with a Copy of the Minutes of Council containing that Treaty.

Gentlemen,

Some Affairs relating to this Province having been the Subject of the ... consultations of the Six Nation Indians at their Annual Council held in the Spring of the Year at Onondago, it was there resolv'd to send a Deputation to this City to consist of a few of the Chiefs of every Nation, and particular Time and Place of Rendezvous was agreed on; in Consequence whereof the Deputies of the Senecas came here at the time appointed & staid a whole Month: but the other Deputies not coming, & they hearing no Tidings about them, concluded they were prevented by some unforeseen Accident, & therefore being so far on their Journey they determined to pay a visit to their Brethren of this Province, & so came here the beginning of the last Month. I refer you to the Minutes of Council, which will be herewith deliver'd to You for their Business. As the Province had been put to some Expence by them, they were told on their Departure, if they met the other Deputies, to inform them what they had done here, & perswade them to return; & it seems they did meet them, but whether they deliver'd this Message or no I have no account; if they did, it had no Effect, for they are now on the Road & expected here every Day. You will therefore be pleased to take the necessary Care for their Reception.

Mr. Wiser having defrayed the Expences of the last Indians in their Journey to and from this City, I advanced him the Sum of Sixty Pounds on his going away: He must by this time have laid out a considerable Sum more, which you will be

Pennsylvania, 1749.

be pleased to order Payment of. And tho' from your long knowledge of his Merit, it might be unnecessary in me to say any thing in his favour, yet as the last Sett of Indians did Damage to his Plantation, & he had abundance of trouble with them, & is likely to meet with much more on this occasion, I cannot excuse myself from most heartily recommending it to You, to make him an handsome Reward for his Services.

James Hamilton

At a Council held at Philadelphia Friday 11th Aug: 1749.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esq: Lieutenant Governor

Thomas Lawrence, Abraham Taylor, William Logan, Samuel Hazell, Robert Strettell, Richard Peters } Esqrs

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approved.

The Governor having in several Conferences with the Attorney General ... extracted out of the Poor Act such Parts as were thought valuable by the Council when it was before them in the January Session & settled the Amendments to it, they were read and approved & sent to the House with the following Message

Gentlemen

According to your Request last Session, I send you the Bill for amending the Laws relating to the Poor, with Amendments. I hope it will appear to you, on Consideration, that the Matters I have thought proper to be omitted, are amply provided for by the Laws now subsisting, and that all the new Provisions tending to the Utility of the Inhabitants of this City & Province are retained, as nothing can afford me greater pleasure than Unanimity in the two Parts of the Legislature.

August 10th 1749. James Hamilton

Then the Governor laid before the Board a short Message relating to the ... Paper Money Bill, which was read & ordered to be delivered to the House along with the Poor Bill.

Gentlemen,

As we have certain Information that a Bill was brought into the ... Parliament of Great Britain, at their last Sessions for restraining His Majesty's Colonies in America from issuing Paper Bills of Credit to pass in Lieu of Money; and as we are hitherto uncertain what may have been the Fate of that Bill, I am of opinion it may be highly imprudent & attended with very bad Consequences to the Province, should

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ernor to order their Guns to be mended, he gave Orders accordingly.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday, 18th July, 1749.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Samuel Hasell, Robert Strettell, } Esqrs.
Thomas Hopkinson, Richard Peters, }

The Minutes of the preceeding Council were read and approv'd.

The Governor laid before the Board the Draught of a Proclamation, agreeable to the Request of the Seneca Deputies at the last Treaty, which was approv'd & order'd to be publish'd & printed.

"By the Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor & Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania & Counties of New Castle, Kent, & Sussex, on Delaware.

"A PROCLAMATION.

"*Whereas,* The Deputies of the Senekas, at a Treaty lately held at Philada., complained to me, in behalf of the Six United Nations, that contrary to the Tenor of a former Treaty now subsisting between them & this Government, & without their Consent, divers Persons, Inhabitants of this Province, have seated themselves & Families on Lands not purchased of them, lying Westward of the Blue Hills, very much to their Hurt, earnestly prayed that they should be forthwith remov'd, to prevent the bad Consequences that might otherwise ensue. And forasmuch as these Persons have neither Lycence from the Proprietaries nor colour of Title to the said Lands, & to permit them to stay there wou'd not only be a breach of the Publick Faith given to the Six Nations, but may occasion dangerous Quarrels with them, & be the Cause of much Bloodshed; Therefore for preventing these Mischiefs I have thought fit, with the advice of the Council, to issue this Proclamation; & do hereby, in His Majesty's Name, strictly charge, command, and enjoin all & every the Persons who have presum'd to settle in any part of the Province Westward of the Blue Bills to remove themselves, their Families & Effects, off those Lands on or before the first Day of November next; And in Case of their Neglect or Refusal, I do, in His Majesty's Name, strictly charge & command all & every the Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, & Officers within this Province, whose Assistance may be necessary, that they, immediately after the said first Day of November, cause the Delinquents, with their Families and Effects, to be removed off the said Lands, as the Law in such Cases directs. And hereof all Persons con-

cerned are to take Notice, and not to fail in their obedience, as they will answer the contrary at their Peril.

"Given under my Hand & the Great Seal of the Province of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, this Eighteenth Day of July, in the Twenty-third Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord, George the Second, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, &c^a. And in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred & forty-nine.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"By His Honour's Command,

"RICHARD PETERS, Secretary.

"GOD SAVE THE KING."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday, 8th August, 1749.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Abraham Taylor, } Esqrs.
Robert Strettell, Richard Peters, }

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approv'd.

The Governor having prepar'd a Message to the Assembly on the Subject of the late Treaty with the Deputies of the Seneca Nation, the same was read & order'd to be deliver'd to the House by the Secretary, together with a Copy of the Minutes of Council containing that Treaty.

"Gentlemen:

"Some Affairs relating to this Province having been the Subject of the consultations of the Six Nation Indians at their Annual Council held in the Spring of the Year at Onontago, it was there resolv'd to send a Deputation to this City, to consist of a few of the Chiefs of every Nation, and particular Time and Place of Rendezvous was agreed on, in Consequence whereof the Deputies of the Senecas came there at the time appointed & staid a whole Month, but the other Deputies not coming, & they hearing no tidings about them, concluded they were prevented by some unforeseen Accident, &, therefore, being so far on their Journey, they determined to pay a visit to their Brethren of this Province, & so came here the beginning of the last Month. I refer you to the Minutes of Council, which will be herewith deliver'd to You, for their Business. As the Province had been put to some Expence by them, they were told on their Departure if they met the other Deputies to inform them what they had done here & perswade them to return, & it seems they did meet them, but whether they deliver'd this Message

or no I have no account; if they did it had no Effect, for they are now on the Road & expected here every Day. You will, therefore, be pleased to take the necessary Care for their Reception.

Mr. Weiser having defrayed the Expences of the Last Indians in their Journey to and from this City, I advanc'd him the Sum of Sixty Pounds on his going away. He must by this time have laid out a considerable Sum more, which you will be pleased to order Payment of; And tho' from your long knowledge of his Merit, it might be unnecessary in me to say any thing in his favour, yet as the Last Sett of Indians did Damage to his Plantation, & he had abundance of trouble with them & is likely to meet with much more on this occasion, I cannot excuse myself from most heartily recommending it to You to make him an handsome Reward for his Services.

"JAMES HAMILTON."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Friday, 11th Augst 1749.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,	Samuel Hasell,	Esqrs.
Abraham Taylor,	Robert Strettell,	
William Logan,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approv'd.

The Governor having in several Conferences with the Attorney General extracted out of the Poor Act such Parts as were thought valuable by the Council when it was before them in the January Session, & settled the Amendments to it, they were read and approv'd & sent to the House with the following Message:

"Gentlemen:

"According to your Request last Session, I send you the Bill for amending the Laws relating to the Poor, with Amendments. I hope it will appear to you on Consideration that the Matters I have thought proper to be omitted are amply provided for by the Laws now subsisting, and that all the new Provisions tending to the Utility of the Inhabitants of this City & Province are retained, as nothing can afford me greater pleasure than Unanimity in the two parts of the Legislature.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"August 10th, 1749."

Then the Governor laid before the Board a short Message relating to the Paper Money Bill, which was read & order'd to be deliver'd to the House along with the Poor Bill:

"Gentlemen:

"As we have certain Information that a Bill was brought into the Parliament of Great Britain at their last Session for restraining His Majesty's Colonies in America from issuing Paper Bills of Credit to pass in lieu of Money, and as we are hitherto uncertain what may have been the fate of that Bill, I am of opinion it may be highly imprudent & attended with very bad Consequences to the Province should we take upon us to pass a Law for increasing the quantity of our Currency until such time as we are better acquainted with the Sentiments of our Superiors upon a subject they have had so lately under Consideration.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"August 10th, 1749."

The Governor having received Information from Mr. Weiser that the other Deputies of the Six Nations were on the road, making in all —— Indians, & that it wou'd not be in the Power of the Interpreter to stop their Journey here, thought it proper to issue the following Proclamation, forbidding all Persons to sell Rum to the Indians, which was read and approv'd.

"By the Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor & Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania & Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware.

"A PROCLAMATION.

"*Whereas*, upon the Settlement of this Province it was early discover'd, and constant experience since shews, that the Selling or giving Strong Liquors to the Indians is attended with great Mischiefs & Inconveniences by reason of its pernicious Effects in prompting them, when under the influence of it, to commit many Outrages & Irregularities, and notwithstanding the wise & good Laws provided against it, we still find upon every Indian Treaty or other Occasion of Large Companys of Indians coming to Philadelphia, that many Persons there do presume, in contempt of such Laws, to sell or indiscreetly give Rum or other strong Liquors to the Indians, to the great Danger, Disturbance, & Offence of the Inhabitants. Wherefore, for the preventing these Mischiefs & Disorders I have thought fit, with the advice of the Council, to issue this Proclamation, hereby in His Majesty's Name strictly forbidding all Persons (those only excepted to whom the Care of the Indians at their Treaties with us is committed) upon any pretence whatsoever to sell or give any Rum or other Spirituous or Strong Liquors to the Indians, on pain of being prosecuted with the utmost rigour of the Law. And I do hereby earnestly recommend it to all & every the Justices of the Peace within the said Province, & especially those within the City of Philadelphia, that they take all

Pennsylvania, 1749.

be pleased to order Payment of. And tho' from your long knowledge of his Merit, it might be unnecessary in me to say any thing in his favour, yet as the Last Sett of Indians did Damage to his Plantation, & he had abundance of trouble with them, & is likely to meet with much more on this occasion, I cannot excuse myself from most heartily recommending it to You, to make him an handsome Reward for his Services.

James Hamilton

At a Council held at Philadelphia Friday 11th. Aug.t 1749.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esq.r Lieutenant Governor

Thomas Lawrence, Samuel Hasell, Abraham Taylor, Robert Strettell, William Logan, Richard Peters } Esq.rs

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approv'd.

The Governor having in several Conferences with the Attorney General &c. extracted out of the Poor Act such Parts as were thought valuable by the Council when it was before them in the January Session & settled the Amendments to it, they were read and approv'd & sent to the House with the following Message

Gentlemen,

According to your Request last Session, I send you the Bill for amending the Laws relating to the Poor, with Amendments. I hope it will appear to you, on Consideration, that the Matters I have thought proper to be omitted, are amply provided for by the Laws now subsisting, and that all the new Provisions tending to the Utility of the Inhabitants of this City & Province are retained, as nothing can afford me greater pleasure than Unanimity in the two Parts of the Legislature.

August 10th. 1749.

James Hamilton

Then the Governor laid before the Board a short Message relating to the ... Paper Money Bill, which was read & ordered to be deliver'd to the House along with the Poor Bill.

Gentlemen,

As we have certain Information that a Bill was brought into the ... Parliament of Great Britain, at their last Sessions for restraining His Majesty's Colonies in America from issuing Paper Bills of Credit to pass in Lieu of Money; and as we are hitherto uncertain what may have been the fate of that Bill, I am of opinion it may be highly imprudent & attended with very bad Consequences to the Province, should

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we take upon us to pass a Law for encreasing the quantity of our Currency, untill such time as we are better acquainted with the Sentiments of our Superiors, upon a Subject they have had so Lately under Consideration.'

August 10th 1749. James Hamilton

The Governor having received Information from Mr. Weiser that the other Deputies of the Six Nations were on the Road making in all Indians, & that it would not be in the Power of the Interpreter to stop their Journey here, thought it proper to issue the following Proclamation, forbidding all Persons to sell Rum to the Indians, which was read and approv'd.

By the Honourable James Hamilton Esq.r Lieutenant Governor & Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania & Counties of Newcastle Kent & Sussex on Delaware.

A Proclamation

Whereas upon the Settlement of this Province it was early discover'd and constant experience since shews that the Selling or giving Strong Liquors to the Indians is attended with great Mischiefs & Inconveniences by reason of its pernicious Effects in prompting them, when under the influence of it to commit many Outrages & Irregularities, and notwithstanding the wise & good Laws provided against it we still find upon every Indian Treaty or other Occasion of large Companys of Indians coming to Philadelphia, that many Persons there do presume in Contempt of such Laws, to sell or indiscreetly give Rum or other Strong Liquors to the Indians to the great Danger Disturbance & Offence of the Inhabitants: Wherefore for the preventing these Mischiefs & Disorders I have thought fit with the advice of the Council to issue this Proclamation, hereby in His Majesty's Name strictly forbidding all Persons (those only excepted to whom the Care of the Indians at their Treaties with us is committed) upon any pretence whatsoever to sell or give any Rum or other Spirituous or Strong Liquors to the Indians, on pain of being prosecuted with the utmost rigour of the Law; And I do hereby earnestly recommend it to all & every the Justices of the Peace within the said Province & especially those within the City of Philadelphia that they take all proper measures to detect & bring to condign Punish=ment all Offenders herein, & give all due encouragement to Persons to discover & give Information against such Offenders, & to take Care that the Moiety of the Penalty of Twenty Pounds forfeiture by the said Laws for each Offence be recover'd & paid to such Informers; & in case of the inability of the Offender to pay the same upon their Conviction, that then the Justices do give the Informer or Prosecutor a Certificate or Order upon the Provincial Treasurer for the five Pounds; which upon sight of such Certificate he is by the said Laws required to pay. And hereof all Persons concern'd are to take Notice, & not to fail in their obedience, as they will answer the contrary at their Peril.

Given under my Hand & the Great Seal of the Province of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia this Eleventh Day of August in the Twenty third Year of the Reign of

On Information received from Mr. Weiser that the Deputies of the other Indian Nations who should have joined the Senekas Deputies were at Shamokin in their way to this City, the Governor sent express directions to him to try all Methods possible to divert them from proceeding on their Journey, and Mr. Weiser accordingly did, but it was so much resented by them that he was obliged to drop it, & there were now arrived in Town not only these Deputies but the Senekas Deputies & with them Mohickons Tutelas, Delawares & Nantycokes amounting in number to Two hundred & eighty: The Governor paid them a ceremonius Visit as usual & having appointed this Day to hear what they had to say the Council was called for this purpose

The Indians not being in their usual place of Audience the Governor ordered the Interpreter to tell them to take their Places, whereupon Canasatego came forward & informed His Honour that they were not ready but desired time till the Afternoon & that if they might be indulged this favour they would then deliver what they had to say to the Government, whereupon the Council was adjourned to the Afternoon; and then Canasatego spoke as follows.

Brethren, the Governor & Council, & all the People of Pennsylvania,

You are sensible that by Treaties there is a firm & good Road established between us and you, but as there has been a long War, this has given us so much Employ that we have not during all the time of War used the Road, now therefore as the War is finished, we thought we would once more see the Road & come & pay you a Visit.

A String of Wampum.

or no I have no account; if they did it had no Effect, for they are now on the Road & expected here every Day. You will, therefore, be pleased to take the necessary Care for their Reception.

Mr. Weiser having defrayed the Expences of the Last Indians in their Journey to and from this City, I advanc'd him the Sum of Sixty Pounds on his going away. He must by this time have laid out a considerable Sum more, which you will be pleased to order Payment of; And tho' from your long knowledge of his Merit, it might be unnecessary in me to say any thing in his favour, yet as the Last Sett of Indians did Damage to his Plantation, & he had abundance of trouble with them & is likely to meet with much more on this occasion, I cannot excuse myself from most heartily recommending it to You to make him an handsome Reward for his Services.

"JAMES HAMILTON."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Friday, 11th Augst 1749.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,	Samuel Hasell,	Esqrs.
Abraham Taylor,	Robert Strettell,	
William Logan,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approv'd.

The Governor having in several Conferences with the Attorney General extracted out of the Poor Act such Parts as were thought valuable by the Council when it was before them in the January Session, & settled the Amendments to it, they were read and approv'd & sent to the House with the following Message:

"Gentlemen:

"According to your Request last Session, I send you the Bill for amending the Laws relating to the Poor, with Amendments. I hope it will appear to you on Consideration that the Matters I have thought proper to be omitted are amply provided for by the Laws now subsisting, and that all the new Provisions tending to the Utility of the Inhabitants of this City & Province are retained, as nothing can afford me greater pleasure than Unanimity in the two parts of the Legislature.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"August 10th, 1749."

Then the Governor laid before the Board a short Message relating to the Paper Money Bill, which was read & order'd to be deliver'd to the House along with the Poor Bill:

"Gentlemen:

"As we have certain Information that a Bill was brought into the Parliament of Great Britain at their last Session for restraining His Majesty's Colonies in America from issuing Paper Bills of Credit to pass in lieu of Money, and as we are hitherto uncertain what may have been the fate of that Bill, I am of opinion it may be highly imprudent & attended with very bad Consequences to the Province should we take upon us to pass a Law for increasing the quantity of our Currency until such time as we are better acquainted with the Sentiments of our Superiors upon a subject they have had so lately under Consideration.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"August 10th, 1749."

The Governor having received Information from Mr. Weiser that the other Deputies of the Six Nations were on the road, making in all —— Indians, & that it wou'd not be in the Power of the Interpreter to stop their Journey here, thought it proper to issue the following Proclamation, forbidding all Persons to sell Rum to the Indians, which was read and approv'd.

"By the Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor & Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania & Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware.

"A PROCLAMATION.

"*Whereas*, upon the Settlement of this Province it was early discover'd, and constant experience since shews, that the Selling or giving Strong Liquors to the Indians is attended with great Mischiefs & Inconveniences by reason of its pernicious Effects in prompting them, when under the influence of it, to commit many Outrages & Irregularities, and notwithstanding the wise & good Laws provided against it, we still find upon every Indian Treaty or other Occasion of Large Companys of Indians coming to Philadelphia, that many Persons there do presume, in contempt of such Laws, to sell or indiscreetly give Rum or other strong Liquors to the Indians, to the great Danger, Disturbance, & Offence of the Inhabitants. Wherefore, for the preventing these Mischiefs & Disorders I have thought fit, with the advice of the Council, to issue this Proclamation, hereby in His Majesty's Name strictly forbidding all Persons (those only excepted to whom the Care of the Indians at their Treaties with us is committed) upon any pretence whatsoever to sell or give any Rum or other Spirituous or Strong Liquors to the Indians, on pain of being prosecuted with the utmost rigour of the Law. And I do hereby earnestly recommend it to all & every the Justices of the Peace within the said Province, & especially those within the City of Philadelphia, that they take all

proper measures to detect & bring to condign Punishment all Offenders herein, & give all due encouragement to Persons to discover & give Information against such Offenders, & to take Care that the Moiety of the Penalty of Twenty Pounds forfeiture by the said Laws for each Offence be recover'd & paid to such Informers; & in case of the inability of the Offenders to pay the same upon their Conviction, that then the Justices do give the Informer or Prosecutor a Certificate or Order upon the Provincial Treasurer for the five Pounds, which upon sight of such Certificate he is by the said Laws required to pay. And hereof all Persons concern'd are to take Notice & not to fail in their obedience, as they will answer the contrary at their Peril.

"*Given* under my Hand & the Great Seal of the Province of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia, this Eleventh Day of August, in the Twenty-third Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord, George the Second, King of Great Britain, France, & Ireland, &c.ª & in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & forty-nine.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"By His Honour's Command.

"RICHARD PETERS, Secretary.

"GOD SAVE THE KING."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Wednesday, 16th Augst. 1749.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,	Samuel Hasell,	Esqrs.
Benjamin Shoemaker,	Robert Strettell,	
William Logan,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approv'd, & then the Governor order'd the Secretary to read a Bill deliver'd to him yesterday for his Concurrence by two Members, Entitled "An Act for erecting part of the Province of Pennsylvania, Westward of Sasquehanna & South Eastward of the South Mountain, into a County," which was approv'd, & return'd to the House with one or two amendments to some of the immaterial parts of the Bill.

"On Information receiv'd from Mr. Weiser that the Deputies of the other Indian Nations who should have join'd the Senekas' Deputies were at Samokin in their way to this City, the Governor sent express directions to him to try all Methods possible to divert them from proceeding on their Journey, and Mr. Weiser accordingly did, but it was so much resented by them that he was oblig'd to drop it, & there were now arrived in Town not only these Deputies but the

Seneka Deputies, & with them Mohickons, Tutelas, Delawares, & Nantycokes, amounting in number to Two hundred & eighty. The Governor paid them a ceremonious Visit as usual, & having appointed this Day to hear what they had to say, the Council was call'd for this purpose.

The Indians not being in their usual place of Audience the Governor order'd the Interpreter to tell them to take their Places, whereupon Canassatego came forward & inform'd His Honour that they were not ready, but desir'd time till the Afternoon, & that if they might be indulg'd this favour, they wou'd then deliver what they had to say to the Government; whereupon the Council was adjourn'd to the Afternoon, and then Canassatego spoke as follows:

"Brethren the Governor & Council & all the People of Pennsylvania:

"You are sensible that by Treaties there is a firm & good Road establish'd between us and you, but as there has been a long War this has given us so much Employ that we have not during all the time of War used the Road; now, therefore, as the War is finished we thought we wou'd once more see the Road & come & pay you a Visit."

A String of Wampum.

"Brethren:

"It is our Custom after a long absence to brighten the Chain of Friendship that the better Regard may be had to what we have to say, & it is the more necessary now as we have something to communicate of a disagreeable Nature, that you may not think it proceeds from any previous Ill Will. We, therefore, give you this Belt to brighten the Chain, assuring you therewith that we have a very hearty Friendship for you, and desire you may have the like for Us."

A Belt of 8 Rows.

"Brethren:

"Since our last renewal of the Treaties of Friendship there has been a War, in which a variety of Accidents have fallen out, in what light the Conduct of each may have been represented to the other, & what construction may have been put thereon we cannot tell, & therefore, on our parts, we think it right to declare, that notwithstanding all that has happen'd, we are not chang'd in our Regards for you but continue to be the same still to the People of this Province as ever. In confirmation whereof we give you this

"Belt of Wampum.

"Brethren:

"You know that by one of the Articles of the Treaties subsisting between us we engage to see and hear from one another, this we have done for you during all the War. You are sensible that

Pennsylvania, 1749.

of our Sovereign Lord George the Second King of Great Britain France & Ireland &c., in the Year of our Lord One Thousand seven hundred & forty nine.

James Hamilton

By His Honour's Command,
Richard Peters Secretary.

God save the King.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Wednesday 16th Aug.st 1749.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esq.r Lieutenant Governor

Thomas Lawrence, Samuel Hazell,
Benjamin Shoemaker, Robert Strettell,
William Logan, Richard Peters } Esq.rs

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approv'd, & then the Governor order'd the Secretary to read a Bill delivered to him yesterday for his Concurrence by two Members, Entitled an Act for erecting part of the Province of Pennsylvania Westward of Sasquehanna & South Eastward of the South Mountain into a County, which was approv'd & return'd to the House with one or two amend=ments to some of the immaterial parts of the Bill.

On Information receiv'd from Mr. Weiser that the Deputies of the other Indian Nations who should have joind the Senekas Deputies were at Shamokin in their way to this City, the Governor sent express directions to him to try all Methods possible to divert them from proceeding on their Journey, and Mr. Weiser accordingly did, but it was so much resented by them that he was oblig'd to drop it, & there were now arrive in Town not only these Deputies but the Seneka Deputies & with them Mohickons Tutelas, Delawares & Nanticokes amounting in number to Two hundred & eighty. The Governor paid them a ceremonious Visit as usual & having appointed this Day to hear what they had to say the Council was call'd for this purpose

The Indians not being in their usual place of Audience the Governor order'd the Interpreter to tell them to take their Places, whereupon Canassatego came forward & inform'd His Honour that they were not ready but desir'd time till the Afternoon & that if they might be indulg'd this favour they would then deliver what they had to say to the Government, whereupon the Council was adjourn'd to the Afternoon; and then Canassatego spoke as follows.

Brethren the Governor & Council, & all the People of Pennsylvania,

You are sensible that by Treaties there is a firm & good Road establish'd between us and you, but as there has been a long War, this has given us so much Employ that we have not during all the time of War used the Road, now therefore as the War is finished, we thought we would once more see the Road & come & pay you a Visit.

A String of Wampum.

Pennsylvania, 1749.

Brethren,

It is our Custom after a long absence to brighten the Chain of Friendship that the better Regard may be had to what we have to say & it is the more necessary now as we have something to communicate of a disagreable Nature, that you may not think it proceeds from any previous Ill Will. We therefore give you this Belt to brighten the Chain, assuring you therewith that we have a very hearty Friendship for you and desire you may have the like for Us.

A Belt of 8 Rows

Brethren,

Since our last renewal of the Treaties of Friendship there has been a War in which a variety of Accidents have fallen out, in what Light the Conduct of each may have been represented to the other, & what construction may have been put thereon we cannot tell. Therefore on our parts we think it right to declare that notwithstanding all that has happen'd we are not chang'd in our Regards for you but continue to be the same still to the People of this Province as ever; in confirmation whereof we give you this

Belt of Wampum.

Brethren,

You know that by one of the Articles of the Treaties subsisting between us we engage to see and hear for one another, this we have done for you during all the War. You are sensible that we are a frontier Country between your Enemy & You — so that we have been your Guard, & things have been manag'd so well as to keep the War from your Doors, and tho' we have been expos'd to many Calamities & Blood has been shed among us, yet we did not trouble you with any account of our hardships during all this War, nor has any thing that has happen'd lessen'd our Affection for you, which we assure you of by this Belt & desire the same return of Affection from You.

A Belt

Brethren,

Now that we have brightened the Chain & inform'd you that our Regards have not been alienated from you but have remain'd firm amidst the various occurrences of War, & that we have now leisure & are poor, we by this Belt desire to make our coming agreable to you, having no other Business with you than to pay you a Brotherly Visit.

A Belt

Brethren,

We now speak only to the Governor & Council — By Treaties, all white People were to have been hinder'd from settling the Lands not purchased of Us, or if they should make any Settlements, as they might at such a distance from you without your knowing of it, you engag'd to remove them when discovered — notwithstanding your Engagements many People have settled on the East side of Sasquehanna, & tho' you may have done your Endeavours to remove them yet we see these have been without Effect, & that white People are no more obedient to you than our young Indians are to Us, & since it may now be attended with a great deal of trouble, we have taken this

thing

PP. 34-38.

36

Pennsylvania, 1749.

into Consideration having while we were on our Journey observed your Peoples Settlements, and are willing to give up the Land on the East side of Sasquehanna from the Blue Hills or Chambers's Mill to where Thomas M.Gee the Indian Trader lives, & leave it to you to assign the worth of them.

A Belt of 12 Rows.

Brethren, the Governor & Council,

We still speak only to the Governor & Council. Some of our Company that have been here a while ago, hearing that numbers were settling & designd to settle the Lands on the Branches of Juniata made a Complaint to you, and as we came along we saw Papers which were Interpreted to us to be Orders for these ... People to remove in consequence of the Complaints made on our behalf by the ... Deputies of the Seneca Nation; we thank you for taking Notice of the Complaints & taking measures to turn them off; but we are apprehensive that no better Effects will follow these than former Ones of the same nature, if not we must insist on it that as this is on the hunting Ground of our Cousins the Nanticokes & other Indians Living on the Waters of Juniata, you use more vigorous measures & forcibly remove — We must not be deprived of our hunting Country. Indeed it will be an hurt to You, for all we kill goes to you and you have the profit of all the Skins — We therefore repeat our earnest entreaties that they may all be immediately made to go away with their Effects, that this Country may be entirely left vacant.

A String.

Brethren the Governor & Council,

We have offerd to assign over to You the Lands on the East side of Sasquehanna from the Blue Hills to Thomas M.Gee's House, & have left it to You to affix the Price. In doing so we have an entire Confidence in the honour of the Governor & Council — People told us that the Proprietors received immense Sums for the Lands we have sold to them, & that Lands are now worth a great deal of Money, you know this better than us, & we trust you will have a regard to this when you fix the price to be paid for them — It may be all in Money or Goods, as you please to order it — That you may do for us in the best manner you can we give you this

Belt

Brethren the Governor & Council,

We should have mentiond at first what we are now going to say, but as it is of a disagreable nature we chose first to brighten the Chain & to declare our Regards for you previously to it — As we came along we found Blood in the way & Blood spilld within your own Doors, We enquird who did it, & were told so many odd & different Stories that the People who gave the Accounts seemd to us like Drunken Men, & we could not tell what to believe — Indians it is true — are apt sometimes to speak untruths, but white People do so too. & can utter falshoods

fast

full as readily as Indians — There are are many bad People among you who are not worthy of Credit — The Governor & Council are wise & understanding Men, & can distinguish who tells truth & who does not, & as we will not take upon us to say how our (Canior was killd, (here the Interpreter said the Person was Nephew of the Speaker Canassatego) so many different Accounts are related of it we desire the Governor will take pains to examine minutely into the truth, not to be too credulous of what every white Man will say but to find out the whole truth & how this came to his Death, & whoever the Governor shall say committed this Murder whether Indians or white People, we shall say so too, & acquiesce in his determination & to induce you to examine carefully & to judge impartially without favour or affection to your own People we give you this String.

Brethren the Governor & Council,

We now speak in behalf of our Cowzins the Nantycokes. You know that on some differences between the People of Maryland & them, we sent for them & placed them at the Mouth of Juniata where they now live; they came to Us while on our Journey & told us that there were three Settlements of their Tribe left behind in Maryland who wanted to come away, but the Marylanders kept them in fence & would not let them; we desire — therefore (being urg'd thereto by our Cowzins the Nantycokes) that you would write to the Gov. of Maryland & use your utmost Interest that the fence in which they are confin'd may be taken away & that their demands on the Maryland Government may be satisfied & that they may be allowed to come & settle where the other Nantycokes are & live with them amongst us — We have further to tell you that the People of Maryland do not treat the Indians as you & others do, for they make Slaves of them & sell their Children for Money, & this makes us more importunate with you to get the rest of our Cowzins from among them, & to urge this we give you

A Belt of 7 Rows.

Brethren,

This kindness has been always shewn us that when we came to see you our Guns & Hatchets and other things of this kind have been mended for us, we request by this String you will continue this favour to us & give the like Orders now as you have been us'd to do.

A String

Brethren the Governor & Council,

We return two Belts & a String of Wampum which were sent to Us by Gov. Thomas — At the Instance of the Governor of Virginia who sent him the Belts, he became a Mediator to procure a Peace between the Catawbas and Us, & that if we were willing to treat with them some place in Virginia might be appointed for both sides to come to, and dispatch'd Conrad Weiser with a Message to Us on that head; and out of Regard to the Governor of Pennsylvania we promised to call our Warriors together & to lay the proposal before them, but then told him that if they were willing to accommodate matters, we should rather chuse to come to Philadelphia than Virginia, but the War broke out soon after & we have never been able to get them together till lately. Now we say we neither offer nor reject Peace, nor do we think that the Catawbas whom we know to be a false People dealt sincerely with the Governor of Virginia when they made him believe that they desired Peace.

This

Pennsylvania, 1749.—

This is our answer. but we request that you would write to the Governor of Virginia that he would find out what are the true Sentiments of the Catawbas, but let him be on his Guard for they will deceive him, & when he has reason to think that he knows their Hearts, that he would inform us of the truth by you— We do not lay any stress on this Matter, but if you will take this trouble on you we should be glad to know the present disposition of the Catawbas.

The Indians having declar'd that they had nothing further to communicate they withdrew, & the Secretary was ordr'd to prepare a fair Copy of these Minutes, & to Lay it before the Assembly to morrow with the following Message.

Mr. Speaker, The Governor for expediting Business sends to the House the Minutes of Council, containing the Speech made yesterday by the Indians; and as they have been faithful to Us during the War recommends it to the House to take into Considera=tion the making them a Present at this time.

At a Council held at Philadelphia 19. Aug. 1749.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esq.r Lieutenant Governor

Thomas Lawrence } Samuel Hasell }
Benjamin Shoemaker } Robert Strettell } Esq.rs
William Logan } Richard Peters }

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approv'd.

The Governor inform'd the Board that he had receiv'd from the House by two of their Members a Bill, Entitled An Act for imposing a Duty on Persons convicted of heinous Crimes, & to prevent Poor & Impotent Persons being imported into this Province, & that having compar'd it with former Acts of the same kind found it exactly agreable to them, he had return'd it with a Message that it should be pass'd when presented to him for that purpose— And that the two Members acquainted him that the House had agreed to the Amendments propos'd to the Bill for erecting a new County, and that as to the Bill relating to the Poor, though the House would have been better satisfied to have had it pass'd entire, yet as several things still remain'd in the Bill that might be serviceable to the Publick, they had agreed to the Amendments propos'd & had order'd it to be engross'd.

The Governor further inform'd the Board that two Members of Assembly had deliver'd to him some Resolutions of the House, on the Message to them with a Copy of the Indians Speech, which are as follow,

Resolv'd, "That besides the Sum of One hundred Pounds lately given to the Indians, a Sum not exceeding Five hundred Pounds be now presented to them."

Resolv'd, "That the Governor be acquainted with the Sentiments of the House, & the hopes

proper measures to detect & bring to condign Punishment all Offenders herein, & give all due encouragement to Persons to discover & give Information against such Offenders, & to take Care that the Moiety of the Penalty of Twenty Pounds forfeiture by the said Laws for each Offence be recover'd & paid to such Informers; & in case of the inability of the Offenders to pay the same upon their Conviction, that then the Justices do give the Informer or Prosecutor a Certificate or Order upon the Provincial Treasurer for the five Pounds, which upon sight of such Certificate he is by the said Laws required to pay. And hereof all Persons concern'd are to take Notice & not to fail in their obedience, as they will answer the contrary at their Peril.

"*Given* under my Hand & the Great Seal of the Province of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia, this Eleventh Day of August, in the Twenty-third Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord, George the Second, King of Great Britain, France, & Ireland, &c., & in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & forty-nine.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"By His Honour's Command.

"RICHARD PETERS, Secretary.

"GOD SAVE THE KING."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Wednesday, 16th Augst, 1749.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,	Samuel Hasell,	Esqrs.
Benjamin Shoemaker,	Robert Strettell,	
William Logan,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approv'd, & then the Governor order'd the Secretary to read a Bill deliver'd to him yesterday for his Concurrence by two Members, Entitled "An Act for erecting part of the Province of Pennsylvania, Westward of Sasquehanna & South Eastward of the South Mountain, into a County," which was approv'd, & return'd to the House with one or two amendments to some of the immaterial parts of the Bill.

"On Information receiv'd from Mr. Weiser that the Deputies of the other Indian Nations who shou'd have join'd the Senekas' Deputies were at Samokin in their way to this City, the Governor sent express directions to him to try all Methods possible to divert them from proceeding on their Journey, and Mr. Weiser accordingly did, but it was so much resented by them that he was oblig'd to drop it, & there were now arrived in Town not only these Deputies but the

Seneka Deputies, & with them Mohickons, Tutelas, Delawares, & Nantycokes, amounting in number to Two hundred & eighty. The Governor paid them a ceremonious Visit as usual, & having appointed this Day to hear what they had to say, the Council was call'd for this purpose.

The Indians not being in their usual place of Audience the Governor order'd the Interpreter to tell them to take their Places, whereupon Canassatego came forward & inform'd His Honour that they were not ready, but desir'd time till the Afternoon, & that if they might be indulg'd this favour, they wou'd then deliver what they had to say to the Government; whereupon the Council was adjourn'd to the Afternoon, and then Canassatego spoke as follows:

"Brethren the Governor & Council & all the People of Pennsylvania:

"You are sensible that by Treaties there is a firm & good Road establish'd between us and you, but as there has been a long War this has given us so much Employ that we have not during all the time of War used the Road; now, therefore, as the War is finished we thought we wou'd once more see the Road & come & pay you a Visit."

A String of Wampum.

"Brethren:

"It is our Custom after a long absence to brighten the Chain of Friendship that the better Regard may be had to what we have to say, & it is the more necessary now as we have something to communicate of a disagreeable Nature, that you may not think it proceeds from any previous Ill Will. We, therefore, give you this Belt to brighten the Chain, assuring you therewith that we have a very hearty Friendship for you, and desire you may have the like for Us."

A Belt of 8 Rows.

"Brethren:

"Since our last renewal of the Treaties of Friendship there has been a War, in which a variety of Accidents have fallen out, in what light the Conduct of each may have been represented to the other, & what construction may have been put thereon we cannot tell, & therefore, on our parts, we think it right to declare, that notwithstanding all that has happen'd, we are not chang'd in our Regards for you but continue to be the same still to the People of this Province as ever. In confirmation whereof we give you this

"Belt of Wampum.

"Brethren:

"You know that by one of the Articles of the Treaties subsisting between us we engage to see and hear from one another, this we have done for you during all the War. You are sensible that

we are a frontier Country between your Enemy & You, so that we have been your Guard, & things have been manag'd so well as to keep the War from your Doors, and tho' we have been expos'd to many Calamities & Blood has been shed among us, yet we did not trouble you with any account of our hardship during all this War, nor has any thing that has happen'd lessen'd our Affection for you, which we assure you of by this Belt, & desire the same return of Affection from You."

A Belt.

"Brethren:

"Now that we have brightened the Chain & inform'd you that our Regards have not been alienated from you, but have remain'd firm amidst the various occurrences of War, that we have now leisure & are poor, we by this Belt desire to make our coming agreable to you, having no other Business with you than to pay you a Brotherly Visit."

A Belt.

"Brethren:

"We now speak only to the Governor & Council. By Treaties all white People were to have been hinder'd from settling the Lands not purchased of Us, or if they shou'd make any settlements, as they might at such a distance from you without your knowing of it, you engag'd to remove them when discovered. Notwithstanding your Engagements many People have settled on the East side of Sasquehanna, & though you may have done your Endeavours to remove them, yet we see these have been without Effect, & that white People are no more obedient to you than our young Indians are to us; & since it may now be attended with a great deal of trouble, we have taken this thing into consideration, having while we were on our Journey observ'd your People's Settlements, and are willing to give up the Land on the East side of Sasquehanna from the Blue Hills or Chambers' Mill to where Thomas M'Gee the Indian Trader lives, & leave it to you to assign the worth of them."

A Belt of 12 Rows.

"Brethren the Governor & Council:

"We still speak only to the Governor & Council Some of our Company that have been here a while ago hearing that numbers were Settling & design'd to Settle the Lands on the Branches of Juniata, made Complaint to you, and as we came along we saw Papers which were Interpreted to us to be Orders for these People to remove, in consequence of the Complaints made on our behalf by the Deputies of the Seneca Nation. We thank you for taking Notice of the Complaint and taking measures to turn them off; but we are apprehensive that no better Effects will follow these than former Ones of the same nature—if not we must insist on it that as this is on the hunting Ground of our Cousins the Nanticokes,

& other Indians Living on the Waters of Juniata, you use more vigorous measures & forcibly remove. We must not be depriv'd of our hunting Country, & indeed it will be an hurt to You, for all we kill goes to You, and you have the profit of all the Skins. We, therefore, repeat our earnest entreaties that they may all be immediately made to go away with their Effects, that this Country may be entirely Left vacant."

A String.

"Brethren the Governor & Council:

"We have offer'd to assign over to You the Lands on the East side of Sasquehanna, from the Blue Hills to Thomas McGee's House, & have left it to You to affix the Price. In doing so we have an entire Confidence in the honour of the Governor & Council. People tell us that the Proprietors receive immense Sums for the Lands we have sold to them, & that Lands are now worth a great deal of Money; you know this better than us, & we trust you will have a regard to this when you fix the price to be paid for them; It may be all in Money or Goods, as you please to order it. That you may do for us in the best manner you can, we give you this

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"Brethren the Governor & Council:

"We shou'd have mention'd at first what we are now going to say, but as it is of a disagreeable nature, we choose first to brighten the Chain, & to declare our Regards for you previously to it. As we came along we found Blood in the way & Blood spill'd within your own Doors; We enquir'd who did it & were told so many odd and different Stories that the People who gave the Accounts seem'd to us Like Drunken Men, & we could not tell what to believe. Indians, it is true, are apt sometimes to speak untruths, but white People do so too, & can utter falsehood full as readily as Indians. There are many bad People among you who are not worthy of Credit. The Governor & Council are wise and understanding Men, & can distinguish who tells truth & who does not, & as we will not take upon us to say how our Warrior was killed (here the Interpreter said the Person was Nephew of the Speaker Canassatego) so many different Accounts are related of it we desire the Governor will take pains to examine minutely in the truth, not to be too credulous of what every white Man will say, but to find out the whole truth & how this ———— came to his Death, & whoever the Governor shall say committed this murder, whether Indians or white People, we shall say so too, & acquiesce in his determination & to induce you to examine carefully & to judge impartially without favour or affection to your own People we give you this

"String.

"Brethren the Governor & Council:

"We now speak in behalf of our Cousins the Nantycokes. You

know that on some differences between the People of Maryland & them we sent for them & placed them at the Mouth of Juniata, where they no live; they came to Us while on our Journey & told us that there were three Settlements of their Tribe Left behind in Maryland who wanted to come away, but the Marylanders kept them in fence & would not let them; we desire, therefore (being urg'd thereto by our Couzins the Nantycokes), that you wou'd write to the Govr of Maryland & use your utmost Interest that the fence in which they are confin'd may be taken away, & that their demands on the Maryland Government may be satisfied & that they may be allowed to come & settle where the other Nantycokes are & Live with them amongst us. We have further to tell you that the People of Maryland do not treat the Indians as you & others do, for they make Slaves of them & sell their Children for Money, & this makes us more importunate with you to get the rest of our Couzins from among them, and to urge this we give you

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"Brethren:

"This kindness has been always shewn us that when we came to see you our Guns & Hatchets and other things of this kind have been mended for us, we request by this String you will continue this favour to us & give the like Orders now as you have been us'd to do."

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"We return two Belts & a String of Wampum which were sent to Us by Govr Thomas. At the Instance of the Governor of Virginia who sent him the Belts, he became a Mediator to procure a Peace between the Catawbas and us, & that if we were willing to treat with them, some place in Virginia might be appointed for both sides to come to, and dispatch'd Conrad Weiser with a Message to Us on that head; and out of Regard for the Governor of Pennsylvania we promised to call our Warriors together & to lay the proposal before them, but then told him that if they were willing to accommodate matters, we shou'd rather chuse to come to Philadelphia than Virginia, but the War broke out soon after & we have never been able to get them together till lately & now we say we neither offer nor reject Peace, nor do we think that the Catawbas whom we know to be a false People dealt sincerely with the Governor of Virginia when they made him believe that they desir'd Peace. This is our answer, but we request that you wou'd write to the Governor of Virginia that he wou'd find out what are the true Sentiments of the Catawbas, but let him be on his Guard for they will deceive him, & when he has reason to think that he knows their Hearts that he wou'd inform us of the truth by you. We do not lay any stress on this Matter, but if you will take this trouble

on you we shou'd be glad to know the present disposition of the Catawbas."

The Indians having declar'd that they had nothing further to communicate, they withdrew, & the Secretary was order'd to prepare a fair Copy of these Minutes & to Lay it before the Assembly to-morrow with the following Message:

"Mr. Speaker—

"The Governor for expediting Business sends to the House the Minutes of Council containing the Speech made yesterday by the Indians; and as they have been faithful to Us during the War, recommends it to the House to take into Consideration the making them a Present at this time."

At a Council held at Philadelphia 19th Augst 1749.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,	Samuel Hasell,	} Esqrs.
Benjamin Shoemaker,	Robert Strettell,	
William Logan	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approv'd.

The Governor inform'd the Board that he had receiv'd from the House by two of their Members a Bill Entitled "An Act for imposing a Duty on Persons convicted of heinous Crimes, & to prevent Poor & Impotent Persons being imported into this Province," & that having compar'd it with former Acts of the same kind & found it exactly agreeable to them, he had return'd it with a Message that it shou'd be pass'd when presented to him for that purpose. And that the two Members acquainted him that the House had agreed to the Amendments propos'd to the Bill for erecting a new County; and that as to the Bill relating to the Poor, though the House wou'd have been better satisfied to have had it pass'd entire, yet as several things still remain'd in the Bill that might be serviceable to the Publick, they had agreed to the Amendments propos'd & had order'd it to be engross'd.

The Governor further inform'd the Board that two Members of Assembly had deliver'd to him some Resolutions of the House on the Message to them, with a Copy of the Indian's Speech, which are as follow:

"*Resolv'd*,

"That besides the Sum of One hundred Pounds lately given to the Indians, 'a Sum not exceeding Five hundred Pounds be now presented to them.'

Relation of the Mayors, & has large debts due to him from several Persons in Canada, & therefore has applied to me for protection, in going there in the Company, but not to have any thing to do in the Negotiation, with the Person you appoint to treat with the Govr of Canada, only I desire the Deputy will countenance & protect him in his journey & when there, at his own Expence I have gave him a passport for that occasion]

coll Johnson has Leave to fill up Blanks of French Prisoners not to exceed 6 in Number [*as retinue to the principal*]

to recommend Gerrardus Groesbeck as one of the Attendants, not as servant.

To Copy out the Article of Instructions to empower to treat to show the Govr of Canada but not to show his other Instruction

Whereas I have thought fit to send ..... to [*Canada*] Quebeck to treat with Mr Le Galissoniere Govr of Canada as my Deputy these are to certify that the said ..... has full power & authority to treat with the said Governour & transact all manner of business relating to prisoners as well Indians and Xtians for me, & in my behalf, as if I was there in Person

G. C.

memorandum an additional Instruction for Banyar
If Mr Gerrardus Groesbeck has a mind to go to Canada under the Convoy I would have you insert his name in the Passport but at his own Expence

INDORSED:[1]

36
Dft Letter to Coll
Johnson with my
Letter to Govr of Canada
and Instructions
9th August 1749

[1] In Clinton's hand.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S[1]

Albany August 19th. 1749

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLCY.

I arrived at Albany, after haveing a passage of 8 days, where I mett two Coghnawagees, who told me, that their Cheifs were gone to Quebec to meet their New Governour, and Endeavour to get the Indians out of Goal, & then come with them Here.— After ordering all things to be made ready for sending of Your Excellcys. dispatches to Canada; together with the female Prisoners I went home the next Day, where I found (to my great trouble) above Sixty of the Oneida, & Conajoharee Indians, who waited my return Eighteen days. I imediately called a Meeting of both the Castles, & the Oneidae's who were here together, Wherin I first Satisfied them all, for my long Stay, & then told them in what manner Yr. Excellency proposed sending the French Prisonners, for the redemption of their People, that You would only send Six now, the better to secure the release of ye. Indians and our People. they approved much of Your Excellencys Sending only a part now. they also promised me (yt. not notwithstanding the many Messages, & hearty Invitations of the French Governt. and Coghnawagees to them, and more particularly an Extraordinary one Sent them now Since I come home, to go Imediately to Canada for their Bretheren, prisonners there.) that they would listen to their Invitations, nor regard their threats, but leave it intirely to Your Excellency's Management, begging most earnestly at the Same time, that Your Excellcy. may use Your Utmost Endeavours to get their Bretheren home now. Which I assured them they might depend upon, it being (to my knowledge) Your Excellcys Cheif desire, & Study. att which Assurance they were well Contented. After that was Over, I had a Seperate meeting wth. ye. Oneidae's who told me they were Sent

[1] In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

down by the five Nations in General to Assure me they had seriously considered the Messages I had Sent them this Spring. (The Substance of which in Short was this, to desire they would endeavour to recover their Senses which Seemed to me they almost lost by listening so much to the French as I found they had, & that they should once more Unite Strongly together as Bretheren, & be One Body, according to the old Agreement made between their Forefathers, and Ours. A Belt of Wampum—In the Second place Hearing that there was a Preist to Settle within twelve miles of Oswego, I insisted in the Strongest Manner, that the five Nations should by no means allow of it as they were Owners of that land, telling them the bad consequences would inevitably follow, and a great deal more too tedious now to insert here.) & that they (the five Nations) acknowled[ged] they acted In Some measure as Drunken Men, but would now follow my directions by makeing a Stronger Union than Ever, with their Brethren, & Remain Inseperable. A Belt of Wampum.—

In the Second place they assure me, they have at my desire prevented the Preists Settleing within a hundred Miles of Oswego, which I realy find to be so, by the Coghnawagees here now.—they gave Another Belt of Wampum upon that.—Now to return to the Affair in hand. M^{r}. Robert Saunders Setts of in two days for Canada, with Major Vanderheyden, five hands to attend them, & Six french Prisonners which makes thirteen in all. There is one part of Your Excellcy^{s}. Instructions that M^{r}. Saunders made a great difficulty of, & was of Opinion that his Journey would be to no purpose, if he must Strictly adhere to this part of the Instructions which says, = As it is Suspected that y^{e}. Govern^{r}. of Canada may raise difficulties, or make Excuses, as to the Imediate liberty of the prisonners in the hands of the french Indians, under Severall pretences, If the Indians, & Christian Prisonners in his own power be Imediately set at liberty With a Conditional promise, that the other prisonners in the hands of the French Indians, Shall be sett at

liberty at a Certain time. Then You may Agree that all the French prisonners Shall be Sett at liberty, on the first Notice I have of the liberty of the English, & Indian Prisonners in the Governour of Canadas Hands & that the Governour may Send proper persons to conduct them Home. He asked my Opinion upon it, Whether he could Accept of the Indians who are in Goal, & the English prisonners in the Governour of Canadas power, if offered, in Case the Govern^{r}. of Canada would make him no promise of Delivering up those prisonners in the hands of the Indians. I told him my opinion before Dow, & Tenyke the Members, & Lyddius, that he must in the Strongest manner Insist on the liberty of all the Prisonners without Distinction, or Ransom, according to the Instructions but Should the Govr. of Canada not agree to deliver up those among the French Ind^{ns}. at his own charge, as Expected, I thought it was much better to take the Indians, & all those in His own power, than to Come away with out them, as I am Sensible the Consequences might be worse than I can tell. I hope Your Excellency will be so Good to Excuse the freedom I took in giveing my Sentiments to him upon that Article, as he would not otherwise take it upon him. I should not have presumed to have Sayed so much to him about it, had I not heard y^{r}. Excellency Say that that if You Could Gett the Indians & Prisoners in his power, that You would not Insist at present positively on the Rest. Which in my small Judgement is right, on Acc^{tt}. of getting the Indians, and it was the Opinion of the two Members &ca So that I hope I have not done amiss in adviseing him so. If I have, I must Desire Y^{r} Excellency will be so good as to [ ] for the best. Yet if it should seem otherwise [ ] You will let me know it ☿ first sloop, that [ ] offers Soon, (which is verry likely by Coghnaw [ ] of Y^{r}. Excellency^{s}. further pleasure before he [ ] of Canada. I have on Seriously consider [[much better there should none of our Ind [ ] the Govr. of Canada may now See, what an [ ] Your Excellc^{y}. has over the Indians, that e [ ]

not go to redeem their own flesh, & Blood [ ]
Moreover if they were to go now with Mr Sau[nders]
it was on their Acct. he Sett them at libe[rty]
Wherefore I have Sent none, & hope Yr. Exce[llency]
I inclose Yr. Excellcy. a french letter which a[ ]
Cheif Engeneer in Canada, and Sent me by a [ ]
had it of a Squaw. You'l See thereby the Desig[ ]
the Oswego trade, and all Communication, [ ]
liveing beyond them Lakes. which would [ ]
As to the Change of the Commission of the pe[ ]
Excellency have it as soon as this Harry is [ ]
I am much oblidged to Your Excellcy. for get[,]
and belive I could recover some part of the [ ]
Method You are pleased to Mention. but agai[ ]
so long; it will be as good to try what they will [ ]
I send your Excellency by Capt. Vanallen, t[ ]
Bills, for the Dollars You were so good to le[ ]
and it is well I have them, for here are no[ ]
Yr. Excellency had thought of Sending up the [ ]
would have been of Use to Mr. Sanders, her[ ]
but a Brother in law of Collin's, and he re[ ]
Even to See them. but he would Sell them, [ ]
pounds for them. Your Excellcy. may I b[ ]
here are. I fear I have trespassed too m[uch]
Patience, So beg leave to Conclude with [ ]
Imaginable Sr.

Yr. Excellency[s]
Most Obledged [ ]
Humble Servan[t]
W[m. Johnson]

To Governour Clinton

INDORSED:[1]

Colll. Johnson 19th August
Recd 6 Septembr. 1749

[1] In Clinton's hand.

hopes they entertain that in Consideration thereof, the Proprietaries Agents are impowered & will accordingly make an additional Present to the Indians, as well as contribute to the Expence arising on this Visit."

And after the Governor had read them, they said they were ordered by the House to acquaint the Governor that as great Injuries were done by the Indians to several Persons as they came down, the House requested he would take proper Notice of them in his Speech to the Indians in order to prevent the like Outrages for the future; and that he had made them this answer, viz, that he would strongly represent to the Indians the Injuries done by some of them to the Inhabitants; and would likewise consider the other part of the Message relating to an Addition to the Present.

His Honour further informd the Board that two Members of Assembly had waited on him acquainting him that the Bills which had passd the House with his concurrence were engrossd in the manner agreed on, and desird to know when the Governor would be pleasd to receive the House in order to the enacting those Bills into Laws, & further that they desird the Governor would appoint two Members of Council to join a like number of the House in order to compare them, whereupon he had ordered the House to attend him at 12 o'Clock this morning, & R. Peters & R. Strettell having compard the engrossd Bills with the Originals—

A Message was sent to the House, that the Governor was ready to receive them in the Council Chamber, & they coming accordingly, the Speaker presented to His Honour the two following Acts, Entitled, "An Act for Erecting part of the Province of Pennsylvania, Westward of Susquehannah, & South Eastward of the South Mountain, into a County" "And" a Supplement to the Act intitled, An Act for imposing a Duty on Persons convicted of heinous Crimes, & to prevent poor and impotent Persons being imported into this Province." and "An Act for amending the Laws relating to the Poor" which were passd into Laws, and then the Speaker presented to the Governor An Order of the House for Six hundred Pounds, the Remainder of his Support for which he was pleasd to thank the House, & say, he hoped the good Agreement which had subsisted between the several Parts of the Legislature hitherto, was a good presage of its continuance during his Administration.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Monday 21st of August 1749.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esqr Lieutenant Governor

Thomas Lawrence, Samuel Hazell,
Abraham Taylor, Robert Strettell,
Benjamin Shoemaker, Joseph Turner,
William Logan, Richard Peters
} Esqrs

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approvd.

The Indians being Seated the Governor spoke to them as follows,

Brethren of the Six United Nations, Be pleasd to Attend — I am now going to return

a

Pennsylvania, 1749.

a distinct answer to what you said to us on Wednesday.

Brethren,

So true a Regard has been paid both by you and Us to the engagements entered into by mutual Treaties, that the Road between us has ever been open & pleasant to travel in: Even in the time of War, had you Trod it, you would have found nothing to obstruct the Passage, & now the War is over, & you are come to see us, you will find a kind & affectionate Reception; In testimony whereof we present you with this

String.

Brethren,

We approve the Custom you mention of brightening the Chain after a long absence; it is a strong Evidence of the Wisdom of the old Men who lived before you, and we heartily do the same on our part, desiring that as we have also some disagreable things to say to you, you may do us like Justice, in imputing what we say of this nature to its true Cause, that is a sincere regard to remove every thing that may obstruct the good understanding hitherto preserved between us — by this Belt we join with you in brightening the Chain.

Brethren,

A Belt of 8 Rows

We thank you for your firm adherence to the Interest of His Majesty during the War & for the particular declaration of regard you have expressed for the People of this Province. Your Neutrality was undoubtedly of great Service to the common Cause, and deserves our acknowledgements, which we gratefully make you. You cannot think but we have had full Accounts of your Affairs from time to time & had there been any reason to believe that the Governors of New York & New England, to whom the King committed the management of the War had not taken you into their protection, and made sufficient Provision for your ... subsistence & safety, we should have done you all the good Offices in our Power; but as this was not the Case, on Information given us that the Indians to the Westward of us were Starving for want of Necessaries, we sent Mr. Weiser to them with a seasonable & expensive Present: We only tell you this that you may see we have not been unmindful of our Brethren; this double Belt expresses our thanks for your Concern for and attachment to us during the War.

Brethren,

A Double Belt

The last thing addressed to the Governor & Council & People of the ... Province in the order you spoke is, that having assured us of the continuance of your Amity, you had at your setting out no particular Business with us, but were prompted by your Brotherly Inclinations to make us a Visit.

As the War is now at an end & the Roads opened so that they may be safely travelled, you did well to come & see us, we take your visit kindly & shall give you a substantial proof of your being welcome to the People of this Province by the Present which they have provided for you, the particulars whereof will be read by the Secretary, & the Goods delivered you by the Interpreter.

Pennsylvania, 1749.

10 Pieces of Strowds
10 Pieces of Striped Duffells
10 Pieces of Half Thicks
10 Half Barrells of Gunpowder
10 C of Bass lead
3 C of Small Shott
20 lb of Vermillion
1/10 Plaid Shirts
50 Ruffled Do.
15 Guns, viz 10 @ 42/6 & 6 @ 45/.
20 Brass Kettles
3 doz of Hatchetts
20 doz of Knives, viz 14 @ 8/6 & 6 @ 9/.
5 M Flints

5 doz. of Looking Glasses
6 Groce of Awl Blades
12 Groce of Gartering
15 Pieces of Ribbon
3 Pieces of Bed Lace
5 doz. of Scrizzars
3 Groce of Ear Rings
5 Groce of Stone Rings & 5 Groce of Plain Rings
5 Pack of Morrice Bells
4 Groce of Brass Thimbles
5 lb of small white Beads
1 Groce & an half of small Brass Jews Harps
1 Piece of Handkerchief
Tobacco & Pipes

Brethren,

Having fully answer'd every part of your Speech which had a Relation to the Publick, I shall now proceed in the same manner to answer what was address'd to me & the Council.

Brethren,

We have taken into Consideration your offer of the Sale of some Lands lying on the East side of Sasquehanna, & tho' we have no directions from the Proprietaries, who are now in England, to treat with you for Lands, yet as we judg'd it for their benefit, & for the Publick Good not to reject the offer you have thought proper to make, we sent you word by the Interpreter that we would treat with you about a new Purchase, but at the same time we gave you to understand, that we could by no means accede to your proposal in the manner you had limitted it, viz, to the Land lying on the East side of Sasquehanna as far as Thomas M.Kees, because you must be sensible, that as the head of the River Schuylkill lies not far from the Sasquehanna, & not far from the head of Schuylkill there runs one of the main branches of the River Delaware, & that the Delaware Indians in their last Treaty had granted their Lands from this Branch to very near the Lechawachsein on Delaware; I say, considering all these things, which were explain'd to you on a Draught, by which it appear'd that all you offer is mountainous, broken & poor Land, you must know that this is not worth our acceptance; but we added that if you would extend your offer to go more Northerly on Sasquehanna, as far as Shamokin & that the Tract might carry its breadth to Delaware River, so as that we could in any manner justify our-selves to the Proprietors, we would close and give you a just Consideration for the Lands. On this you held a Council, & made us a second offer, that you would sign a Deed to the Proprietors for all that Tract of Land that lies within the following bounds, viz, Beginning at the Kittochkinny Hills, where your last Purchase ends on Sasquehanna from thence by the Courses of the River Sasquehanna to the first Mountain North of the Creek, called in the Onondago Language, Cantawghy, & in the Delaware Language, Mahoonianey on the said River Sasquehanna, this is the Western boundary then for the North boundary by a straight Line to be run from that Mountain to the Main Branch of Delaware River, at the North side of the Mouth of Lechawachsein, so as to take in the Waters of Lechawachsein - The East Boundary to be the River

Delaware

Pennsylvania, 1749.

Delaware from the North of the Viskil to the Kittochtinny Hills, the South boundary to be that Range of the Kittochtinny Hills to the Place of Beginning, together with the Islands in the Rivers Sasquehanna & Delaware in that Compass — Having receives this second Offer, tho' neither in this is there any considerable quantity of good Land, yet in regard to your Poverty more than to the real value of the Tract we sent you word, that on your signing a Deed we would pay you the Sum of Five hundred Pounds.

Brethren,

We hope better things of our People than that they should disobey our Proclamation, as they know the Laws, & that the Penalties incurr'd by breach of them cannot consistently with the Publick Safety be remitted. We shall not find it difficult effectually to remove all these Intruders, if some of your Indians do not give them Countenance; it is not above four or five Years ago that they were all remov'd from Juniata, nor would any since that have presum'd to go there, if they had not been favour'd by some of your People — The Interpreter can tell you what happen'd but one Year ago, viz. that some Indians objected to his turning off the white People settled on the Path Leading to Allegheny, & he was oblig'd to desist — We must therefore tell you plainly that such Lycences must not be given, & that if we turn the People off, you must not defend them nor invite them there again, this is a breach of your Duty, therefore do so no more and on our part we assure that, as we have required obedience by our Proclamation, we will at the time limitted thereon exact it punctually. I make no doubt but when these People see the Government is determin'd to use force, they will quietly leave their Settlements, especially as they may ..... be provided with Land on the East side of Sasquehanna within the new Purchase. In confirmation hereof we give you this String.

Brethren.

We condole with Canassatego & You on the Murder of his Relation, & are sorry that it happen'd within our Doors; as soon as we heard of it, (which we did by one of our Messengers who happen'd to be at Mr. George Croghan's on our Business, at the very time the Warrior was kill'd, & saw the Dead Body) we order'd a full & impartial Enquiry to be made how he came by his Death, and it is return'd unto us by the Coroner's Inquest taken on Oath that he was ... kill'd by the Shotts of a Gun, but who kill'd him they do not expressly say, tho' all believe, by the Evidence given, that he was kill'd by his Comrades, the Body lying in the Place where they had prepar'd their Night Quarters, & the Blood lying all on the Ground under the Body, so that he could not have gone a step after he receiv'd the wound, which is further proved by the mark of the Bullet now to be seen in a tree just by the Place — And some of your own Indians living at Ohio, who by accident were present, expressly declare that he must have been shot at that very place among the Indians themselves, tho' the Companions of this unfortunate Warrior said, that some White People had kill'd him, & that he came to them & told them so, which you easily perceive must be false if the above Account be true — Mr. Croghan,

the

the Magistrate before whom the Matter was laid, would have examined these Indians but they would not submit to it, Some of them in particular run away: The white People at whose House the Indians got Liquors are all Bound over to Court, & if it shall turn out that they or any others were concern'd in the Murder of this Warrior they shall be brought to Publick Tryal in the same manner as if they had killd a white Man, & Notice shall be given you that the Friends of the deceas'd may be present at the Tryal if they please — in the mean time take these Handkerchiefs & give some to the Relations of the deceas'd & wipe off all Tears from their Eyes — We shall keep your String in case of any fresh Discovery.

Handkerchiefs

Brethren,

We return the Belt by which you requested we would become Solicitors to the Governor of Maryland for the Nanticokes being perfectly satisfied that these Indians have misrepresented the Governor of Maryland & their Concerns with him — We shall however write to the Governor of Maryland as you desire, but you may depend upon it from what is well known here, that it will turn out quite contrary to what you expect — Tho' we return the Belt we shall do the Service desired.

Brethren,

The late Governor was induc'd by a Regard for the general Interest of the Indian Nations to accept the Mediation between the Catawbas & the Six Nations, & we were in hopes it would have had a good Effect, but as we observe a great shyness on both Sides, we will say no more than that such a Letter shall be sent to the Governor of Virginia as is desir'd, & this answer shall be transmitted when it comes to my Hands; for this purpose we keep the String you gave Us.

Brethren,

Having finish'd our answer, we are under a Necessity to say something that may be disagreable to You, but you must take it in good part agreable to what I said before.

An Indian this last Summer came in a rude manner to a substantial Housekeeper of Lancaster County, one Adam Furney, and demanded Rum of him — he gave him some, but because he refus'd to give him more, he withdrew a small space, & having his Gun in his Hand ready Loaded he shot him in the Breast, & he lay a considerable time ill of his Wounds, being expected to dye every Day. On this the Indian was apprehended & committed to Gaol, but the Man recovered, contrary to all expectation, & the Indian was the other Day released.

Several bad Skirmishes do frequently happen occasion'd by the rude behaviour of Indians, but none more nor of a worse nature than those which arise from mischiefs done by your People to Farmers & their Cattle in their Journeys to & from this City; this is the more provoking as You cannot but be sensible of the kind reception You always meet with from us. The Assembly who are troubled with Petitions from the People injured, & from a Principle of Justice & Compassion make good the Damages, have recommended it to me to remonstrate against this usage in the warmest manner, & particularly against the behaviour of your young People in their coming here this Summer, & to insist that there be no more such doings — Take this String then & Chastize your unruly Indians.

&

Pennsylvania, 1749.

and admonish them to behave better for the future, or they will certainly draw on them the resentment of the Country People who will not be restrain'd from taking vengeance for such unprovok'd & mischievous treatment.

A String.

Several conferences were held with the Chiefs of the Indians concerning the new Purchase of Lands, & at length the Limits were unanimously agreed to & the Consideration Money paid, whereupon the Indians executed a Deed to the Proprietaries, which was ordered to be put upon Record.

At a Council held at Philadelphia 11th September 1749.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esqr. Lieutenant Governor

Abraham Taylor, Robert Strettell } Esqrs.
William Logan, Richard Peters }

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approved.

The Governor having order'd Doctor Graeme & Doctor Thomas Bond to visit the Ship Francis & Elizabeth arrived in the Cove below the City with Palatines on board from Rotterdam, & they having reported, that she was an unhealthy Vessel, several of the Passengers labouring under an eruptive fever which they were of opinion was infectious, he had order'd the Trustees of the Province Island to attend the Council, to be inform'd of the Condition of the Pest House & what conveniences there were or might soon be made for the reception & care of the Sick & the Trustees accordingly attending, together with the Doctors it appears on examination that the Place was in great Disorder, & that for want of room ... Household Furniture, & suitable Apartments the Sick could be but indifferently taken care of; yet there being a necessity of immediately Landing the infected, the Trustees promised to put the Rooms into the best order they could & to build some slight out Houses that might serve the present Occasion, whereupon the Captain of the Ship Francis & Elizabeth was served with an order from the Governor to remove his Vessel to the Mouth of Shurtkill as near to the Pest House as he could conveniently lye, to send there all the Sick & to keep the well on board, and not to suffer any Persons to go near them, except the Doctors, Necessary Nurses & Servants.

Memorandum, 8th October 1749. The Returns of the several Sheriffs & Coroners for the Province & Counties having been delivered to the Governor, a Council ... was called to consider to whom Commissions should be granted, but no Members ... appearing, the Governor Commissionated the following Persons, viz.

Richard Sewell, Sheriff } Philad.a County
George Heap, Coroner }

John Owen, Sheriff } Chester County
Isaac Lee, Coroner }

"*Resolv'd*,

"That the Governor be acquainted with the Sentiments of the House, & the hope they entertain that in Consideration thereof the Proprietaries' Agents are impowered & will accordingly make an additional Present to the Indians, as well as contribute to the Expence arising on this Visit."

And after the Governor had read them, They said they were order'd by the House to acquaint the Governor that as great Injuries were done by the Indians to several Persons as they came down, the House requested he wou'd take proper Notice of them in his Speech to the Indians, in order to prevent the like Outrages for the future; and that he had made them this answer, viz., that he wou'd strongly represent to the Indians the Injuries done by some of them to the Inhabitants, and would Likewise consider the other part of the Message relating to an Addition to the Present.

His Honour further inform'd the Board that two Members of Assembly had waited on him, acquainting him that the Bills which had pass'd the House with his concurrence were engross'd in the manner agreed on, and desir'd to know when the Governor wou'd be pleas'd to receive the House in order to the enacting those Bills into Laws; and further, that they desir'd the Governor would appoint two Members of Council to join a like number of the House, in order to compare them; whereupon he had order'd the House to attend him at 12 o'Clock this morning, Mr. Peters & Mr. Strettell having compar'd the engross'd Bills with the Originals.

A Message was sent to the House that the Governor was ready to receive them in the Council Chamber, & they coming accordingly, the Speaker presented to His Honour the two following Acts, Entitled "An Act for Erecting part of the Province of Pennsylvania Westward of Sasquehannah & South Eastward of the South Mountain into a County," And "a Supplement to the Act intitled 'An Act for imposing a Duty on Persons convicted of heinous Crimes, & to prevent poor and impotent Persons being imported into this Province,'" and "An Act for amending the Laws relating to the Poor," which were pass'd into Laws; and then the Speaker presented to the Governor an Order of the House for Six Hundred Pounds, the Remainder of his Support, for which he was pleased to thank the House, & say he hoped the good Agreement which had subsisted between the several Parts of the Legislature hitherto was a good presage of its continuance during his Administration.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Monday, 21st of August, 1749.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,	Samuel Hasell,	Esqrs.
Abraham Taylor,	Robert Strettell,	
Benjamin Shoemaker,	Joseph Turner,	
William Logan,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approv'd.

The Indians being seated the Governor spoke to them as follows:

"Brethren of the Six United Nations—

"Be pleas'd to Attend. I am now going to return a distinct answer to what you said to us on Wednesday.

"Brethren:

"So true a Regard has been paid both by you and Us to the engagements enter'd into by mutual Treaties that the Road between us has ever been open & pleasant to travel in. Even in the time of War had you tried it you wou'd have found nothing to obstruct the Passage, & now the War is over & you are come to see us you will find a kind & affectionate Reception. In testimony whereof we present you with this

"String.

"Brethren:

"We approve the Custom you mention of brightening the Chain after a long absence; it is a strong Evidence of the Wisdom of the old Men who lived before you, and we heartily do the same on our part, desiring that as we have also some disagreable things to say to you, you may do us like Justice in imputing what we say of this nature to its true Cause, that is a sincere regard to remove every thing that may obstruct the good understanding hitherto preserv'd between us; by this Belt we join with you in brightening the Chain."

A Belt of 8 Rows.

"Brethren:

"We thank you for your firm adherence to the Interest of His Majesty during the War, & for the particular declaration of regard you have express'd for the People of this Province. Your Neutrality was undoubtedly of great Service to the common Cause and deserves our acknowledgements, which we gratefully make you.

"You cannot think but we have had full Accounts of your Affairs from time to time, & had there been any reason to believe that the Governors of New York & New England, to whom the King committed the management of the War, had not taken you into their

protection and made sufficient Provision for your subsistence & safety, we shou'd have done you all the good Offices in our Power; but as this was not the Case, on Information given us that the Indians to the Westward of us were starving for want of Necessaries, we sent Mr. Weiser to them with a seasonable & expensive Present. We only tell you this that you may see we have not been unmindful of our Brethren; this double Belt expresses our thanks for your Concern for and attachment to us during the War."

A Double Belt.

"Brethren:

"The last thing addressed to the Governor & Council & People of the Province in the order you spoke is, that having assur'd us of the continuance of your Amity, you had at your setting out no particular Business with us, but were prompted by your Brotherly Inclinations to make us a Visit.

"As the War is now at an end & the Roads opened so that they may be safely travelled, you did well to come & see us; we take your visit kindly, & shall give you a substantial proof of your being welcome to the People of this Province by the Present which they have provided for you, the Particulars whereof will be read by the Secretary & the Goods deliver'd you by the Interpreter."

10 Pieces of Strowds,
10 Pieces of Striped Duffills,
10 Pieces of Half Thicks,
10 Half Barrels of Gun-powder,
10 cwt. of Barr Lead,
3 cwt. of Small Shott,
20 lb. of Vermillion,
140 Plain Shirts,
50 Ruffled Do.,
15 Guns, viz., 10 @ 42, 6 & 6 @ 45,
20 Brass Kettles,
3 doz. of Hatchetts,
20 doz. of Knives, viz., 14 @ 8 6, & 6 @ 9,
5 M. Flints,
5 doz. of Looking Glasses,
6 Groce of Awl Blades,
12 Groce of Gartering,
15 pieces of Ribbon,
3 Pieces of Bed Lace,
5 doz. of Scizzars,
3 Groce of Ear-Rings,
5 Groce of Stone Rings & 5 Groce of Plain Rings,
5 Pack of Morris' Bells,
4 Groce of Brass Thimbles,
5 lb. of small white Beads,
1 Groce & an half of small Brass Jews Harps,
1 Piece of Handkerchief,
Tobacco & Pipes.

"Brethren:

"Having fully answer'd every part of your Speech which had a Relation to the Publick, I shall now proceed in the same manner to answer what was address'd to me & the Council:

"Brethren—

"We have taken into Consideration your offer of the Sale of some Lands lying on the East side of Sasquehanna, & tho' we have no directions from the Proprietaries, who are now in England, to

treat with you for Lands, yet as we judg'd it for their benefit & for the Publick Good not to reject the offer you have thought proper to make, we sent you word by the Interpreter that we would treat with you about a new Purchase, but at the same time we gave you to understand that we could by no means accede to your proposal in the manner you had limited it, viz., to take Land lying on the East side of the Susquehanna, as far as Thomas McKee's, because you must be sensible that as the head of the River Schuylkill lies not far from the Sasquehanna, & not far from the head of Schuylkill there runs one of the main branches of the River Delaware, & that the Delaware Indians, in their last Treaty, had granted the Lands from this Branch to very near the Lechawachsein on Delaware. I say, considering all these things, which were explain'd to you on a Draught, by which it appears that all you offer is mountanious, broken & poor Land, you must know that this is not worth our acceptance, but we added that if you wou'd extend your offer to go more Northerly on Sasquehanna as far as Shamoken, & that the Tract might carry its breadth to Delaware River, so as that we cou'd in any manner justify ourselves to the Proprietors, we wou'd close and give you a just Consideration for the Lands. On this you held a Council & made us a second offer that you would sign a Deed to the Proprietors for all that Tract of Land that lies within the following bounds, viz.: Beginning at the Kittochhinny Hills, where your last Purchase ends, on Sasquehanna, from thence by the Courses of the River Sasquehanna to the first Mountain North of the Creek, called in the Onondaga Language Cantawghy, & in the Delaware Language Makooniahy, on the said River Sasquehanna, this is the Western boundary; then for the North boundary by a straight Line to be run from that Mountain to the Main Branch of Delaware River, at the North side of the Mouth of Lechawachsein, so as to take in the Waters of Lechawachsein; The East Boundary to be the River Delaware from the North of the Viskil to the Kittochtinny Hills; the South boundary to be that Range of the Kittochtinny Hills to the Place of Beginning, together with the Islands in the River Sasquehanna & Delaware in that Compass. Having received this second Offer, tho' neither in this is there any considerable quantity of good Land, yet in regard to your Poverty more than to the real value of the Tract we sent you word that on your Signing a Deed we wou'd pay you the Sum of Five Hundred Pounds.

"Brethren:

"We hope better things of our People than that they shou'd disobey our Proclamation, as they know the Laws, & that the Penalties incur'd by breach of them cannot consistently with the Publick Safety be remitted. We shall not find it difficult effectually to remove all these Intruders, If some of your Indians do not give them Countenance. It is not above four or five Years ago that they were all remov'd from Juniata, nor would any since that have presum'd

to go there if they had not been favour'd by some of your People. The Interpreter can tell you what happen'd but one Year ago, viz., that some Indians objected to his turning off the white People settled on the Path leading to Allegheny, & he was oblig'd to desist. We must, therefore, tell you plainly that such Lycences must not be given, & that if we turn the People off you must not defend them nor invite them there again, this is a breach of your Duty, therefore do so no more; and on our part we assure that as we have required obedience by our Proclamation we will at the time Limitted therein exact it punctually, & make no doubt but when these People see the Government is determin'd to use force they will quietly leave their Settlements, especially as they may be provided with Land on the East side of Sasquehanna within the new Purchase. In confirmation hereof we give you this String.

"Brethren:

"We condole with Canassatego & You on the Murder of his Relation, & are sorry that it happen'd within our Doors. As soon as we heard of it (which we did by one of our Messengers who happen'd to be at Mr. George Croghan's on our Business at the very time the Warrior was kill'd, & saw the Dead body) we order'd a full & impartial Enquiry to be made how he came by his Death, and it is return'd unto us by the Coroner's Inquest taken on oath that he was kill'd by the Shotts of a Gun; but who kill'd him they do not expressly say, tho' all believed, by the Evidence given, that he was kill'd by his Comrades, the Body lying in the place where they had prepar'd their Night Quarters, & the Blood lying all on the Ground under the Body, so that he cou'd not have gone a step after he receiv'd the wound, which is further proved by the mark of the Bullet now to be seen in a tree just by the Place; And some of your own Indians living at Ohio who by accident were present expressly declar'd that he must have been shot at that very place among the Indians themselves, tho' the Companions of this unfortunate Warrior said that some White People had kill'd him, & that he came to them & told them so, which you easily perceive must be false, if the above Account be true. Mr. Croghan, the Magistrate before whom the Matter was Laid, wou'd have examined these Indians but they would not submit to it, & one of them in particular run away. The white people at whose House the Indians got Liquors are all Bound over to Court, & if it shall turn out that they or any others were concern'd in the Murder of this Warrior, they shall be brought to Publick Tryal in the same manner as if they had kill'd a white Man, & Notice shall be given you that the Friends of the deceas'd may be present at the Tryal if they please. In the mean time take these Handkerchiefs & give some to the relations of the deceas'd, & wipe off all Tears from their Eyes. We shall keep your String in case of any fresh Discovery."

Handkerchiefs.

"Brethren:

"We return the Belt by which you requested we wou'd become Sollicitors to the Governor of Maryland for the Nantycokes, being perfectly satisfied that these Indians have misrepresented the Governor of Maryland & their Concerns with him. We shall, however, write to the Governor of Maryland as you desire, but you may depend upon it, from what is well known here, that it will turn out quite contrary to what you expect. Tho' we return the Belt we shall do the Service desir'd.

"Brethren:

"The late Governor was induc'd by a Regard for the general Interest of the Indian Nations to accept the Mediation between the Catawbas & the Six Nations, & we were in hopes it wou'd have had a good Effect; but as we observe a great shyness on both sides, we will say no more than that such a Letter shall be sent to the Governor of Virginia as is desir'd, & his answer shall be transmitted when it comes to my Hands; for this purpose we keep the String you gave us.

"Brethren:

"Having finish'd our answer, we are under a Necessity to say something that may be disagreable to You; but you must take it in good part, agreable to what I said before.

"An Indian this last Summer came in a rude manner to a substantial Housekeeper of Lancaster County, one Adam Furney, and demanded Rum of him; he gave him some, but because he refus'd to give him more, he withdrew a small space & having his Gun in his Hand ready loaded he shot him in the Breast, & he lay a considerable time ill of his Wounds, being expected to dye every Day. On this the Indian was apprehended & committed to Jayl, but the Man recovered, contrary to all expectation, & the Indian was the other Day released.

"Several bad Skirmishes do frequently happen, occasion'd by the rude behaviour of Indians, but none more nor of a worse nature than those which arise from mischiefs done by your People to Farmers & their Cattle in their Journeys to & from this City; this is the more provoking as You cannot but be sensible of the kind reception You always meet with from us. The Assembly, who are troubled with Petitions from the People injured, & from a Principle of Justice & Compassion make good the Damages, have recommended it to me to remonstrate against this usage in the warmest manner, & particularly against the behaviour of your young People in their coming here this Summer, & to insist that there be no more such doings. Take this String then & Chastise your unruly Indians, and admonish them to behave better for the future, or they will certainly draw on them the resentment of the

Country People, who will not be restrain'd from taking vengeance for such unfounded & mischievous treatment."

A String.

Several conferences were held with the Chiefs of the Indians concerning the new Purchase of Lands, & at length the limits were unanimously agreed to & the Consideration Money paid, whereupon the Indians executed a Deed to the Proprietaries, which was order'd to be put upon Record.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, 11th September, 1749.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Abraham Taylor, William Logan, Robert Strettell, Richard Peters, } Esqrs.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approv'd.

The Governor having order'd Doctor Grœme & Doctor Thomas Bond to visit the Ship Francis & Elizabeth, arriv'd in the Cove below the City with Palatines on board from Rotterdam, & they having reported that she was an unhealthy Vessel, several of the Passengers labouring under an eruptive fever which they were of opinion was infectious, he had order'd the Trustees of the Province Island to attend the Council to be inform'd of the Condition of the Pest House & what conveniences there were or might soon be made for the reception & care of the Sick; & the Trustees accordingly attending, together with the Doctors, it appear'd on examination that the Place was in great Disorder, & that for want of room, Household Furniture, & suitable Apartments, the Sick cou'd be but indifferently taken care of, yet there being a necessity of immediately landing the infected the Trustees promis'd to put the Rooms into the best order they cou'd & to build some slight out Houses that might serve the present Occasion; whereupon the Captain of the Ship Francis & Elizabeth was serv'd with an order from the Governor to remove his Vessel to the Mouth of Schuylkill, as near to the Pest House as he cou'd conveniently lye, to send there all the Sick & to keep the well on board, and not to suffer any Persons to go near them except the Doctors, Necessary Nurses, & Servants.

8th October, 1749.

MEMORANDUM.

The Returns of the several Sheriffs & Coroners for the Province & Counties having been deliver'd to the Governor, a Council was

call'd to consider to whom Commissions shou'd be granted, but no Members appearing, the Governor Commissionated the following Persons, viz.:

Richard Sewell, Sheriff, George Heap, Coroner,	Philad[a] County.
John Hart, Sheriff, William Smith, Coroner,	Bucks County.
Hance Hamilton, Sheriff, Nicholas Ryland, Coroner,	York County.
Thomas Parke, Sheriff, William Blakiston, Coroner,	Kent County.
John Owen, Sheriff, Isaac Lee, Coroner,	Chester County.
Andrew Worrick, Sheriff, Robert Stewart, Coroner,	Lanc[r] County.
John Vandyke, Sheriff, Samuel Silsby, Coroner,	New Castle Co.
Peter Clowes, Sheriff, William Shankland, Coro[r]	Sussex County.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Monday the 16th October, 1749.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Joseph Turner, Richard Peters, William Logan, } Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approv'd.

The Governor informed the Board that he had received a Message from the House by Five Members, that a Quorum of the Representatives was met and had proceeded to chuse their Speaker, and desired to know when they might present him, and that he had appointed them to wait on him to-day at eleven o'Clock in the Couucil Chamber. The Time of appointment being elapsed, his Honour sent a verbal Message by the Secretary to inform the house that he was ready to receive them; whereupon the House came and presented John Kinsey, Esquire, as their Speaker, who was approved, and having prayed the usual Priviliges and received a favourable Answer, the House withdrew.

Then the Governor order'd the following Letter from the Duke of Bedford to be read and enter'd, and having prepared a Message to the Assembly on the Contents thereof, and on the late Indian

Sr:

Yesterday Came by My house four Indians warriers from ye Southard, on thire Return to Onondago, & about one Mile below My house towards Harris's ferrey they Gott a Drinking at a Still-house, & in ye Night one of them gott Stabd in three pleses in ye body & Dyed on the Spott, ye Other three being Drunk I Cannott yett find outt whether he was kill'd by one of them Selves or a white Man, But I Shall Secure all ye white Men that was att ye plese till I find outt the Truth of ye affair, & then I will Lett you know More fully ye Truth of ye Matter, Butt I think all Stillers & Tavern keepers Should be fined for Making ye Indians Drunk, & Espesely warriers.

Sr I remain

yrs as before,

G. C.

Indorsed.

George Croghan's Lre, July 1749.

Gov. Clinton to Gov. Hamilton, 1749.

July 24, 1749.

Sir:

Colle Johnson, who is now with me, has received a letter from a Friend of his at Oswego, dated 2d July, as follows: We have various reports of an Army gone to Ohio; Some making it very Numerous, others but a few, so that we can't tell which to confide in, tho' it is beyond doubt that there is one of Some Sort, as it has been told here, by Several Indians, both Cocknawagaes and others; and by a Sachem from Onondago, who came here this day, we have ye following accounts, which he Says he had from Some Indians from Canada, that the French had Spoke to the Fighters of the Cocknawogaes with a Belt of Wampum, for their assistance, but were refused by them, and they then applyed to the Sachems for their Interest with the Young Men, but they refused them also, and told them they had been agreat while fighting for them, and as it was now peace they would not take up the Hatchett again, &c.; and he says they were also refused in the like manner by Several other Indians who they applied to for assistance, and that they had in all but Six Indians that joined them, three of which are Cocknowagoes, and yt this Army consisted in all of three hundred Men, and ye Six Indians. Jancourt is gone on the expedition, and was to have Commanded the Indians, if they could have prevailed with them to have gone.

This account, tho' Imperfect, Seems the most authentick I have heard. I have the Honour to be, with great Respect,

Sir,

Your most Obedient,

humble Servant,

GEO. CLINTON.

Honble Governor Hamilton,
Fort George at.
New York, 24 July,
1749.

Indorsed.

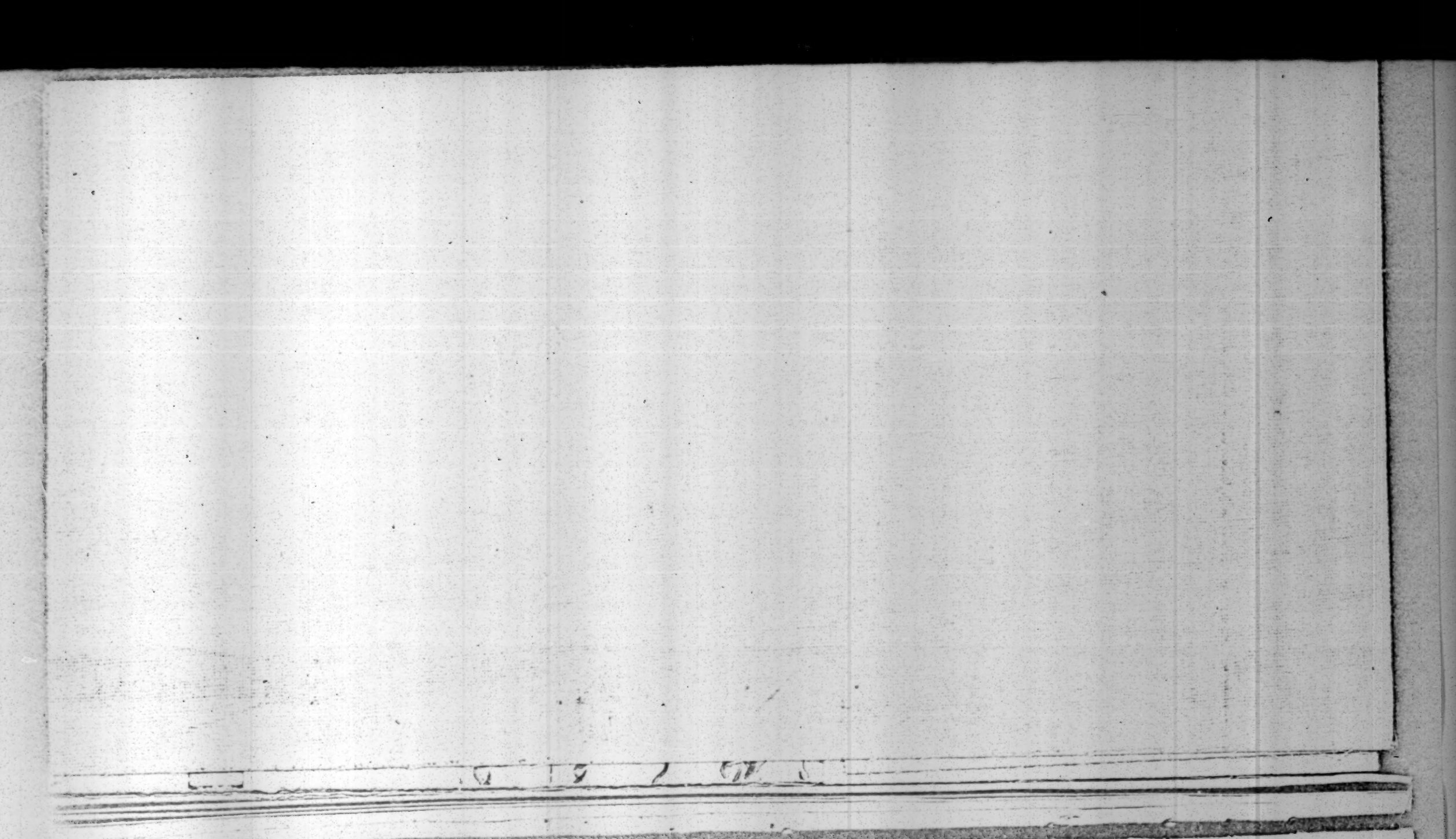
Governor Clinton's Letter to Governor Hamilton, dated 25th July, 1749.

Indian Deed for Lands between Delaware & Susquehanna, 1749.

Know all men by these Presents, that We, Canasatêgo, Sataganâchly, Kanalshyiacâyon and Canechwadeeron Sachems or Chiefs of the Indian Nations, called the Onontagers, Cayianockea, Hanatssany Agâsh Tass, Caruchianâchqui Sachems or Chiefs of the Indian Nation called the Sinickers; Peter Ontachsax and Christian Diaryhogon Sachems or Chiefs of the Indian Nation called the Mohocks; Saristagnoah, Watshatuhon and Anuchnaxqua Sachems, or chiefs of the Indian Nation called the Oneyders; Tâwis Tawis; Kachnoaraascha and Ta Kachquöantas Sachems or Chiefs of the Indian Nation called the Cayuikers; Tyierox, Ralichwanonàchshy Sachems or Chiefs of the Indian Nation called the Tuscorrorow; Tachnechdorus Sago guchiâthon & Cachnaora Kâtack-Ke the Sachems or chiefs of the Indian Nation called the Shomokin Indians; Nutimus and Quàlpaghack, Sachems or chiefs of the Indian Nation called the Delawares, and Backsinôsa Sachem or chief of the Indian Nation called the Shawanes, for and in consideration of the sum of Five hundred Pounds lawfull money of Pennsylvania, by the Honourable Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Esquires, Proprietaries of the Province of Pennsylvania, &c., well and truly paid unto the said Canasatêgo Sataganâchly, Kanalshyiacâyon, Canechwadeeron, Cayianockea, Hanatssany, Agâsh Tass, Caruchianâchqui, Peter Ontachsax, Christian Diaryhogon, Saristagnoah, Watshatuhon Anuchnaxqua, Tâwis Tawis, Kachnoaraascha Ta Kachquoantas, Tyierox, Ralichwanoaâch-Shy, Tachnecdorus, Sagoguchiathon, Cachnaora, Katack-Ke, Nutimus, Qualpaghack and Backsinosa before the Sealing and Delivery of these Presents, the Receipt whereof they the said Sachems or Indian Chiefs, do hereby Acknowledge themselves to be fully Satisfied, contented and paid, and thereof do acquit and forever discharge the said Proprietaries, Thomas Penn

and Richard Penn, their Heirs, Successors and Assigns by these Presents, They the said Canasatego Sataganâchly, Kanalshyiacayon, Canechwadeêre, Cayianôckea, Hanatssaiiy, Agash Tass, Caruchianachqui, Peter Ontachsax, Christian Diaryhogon, Saristagnoah Watshatahon, Anuchnaxqua, Tawis Tawis, Kachnoaraasêha Ta Kachquoantas, Tyierox, Ralichwanonâch-shy Tachnechdorus, Sago guchiathon, Cachnaora, Katack-Ke, Nutimus, Qualpaghach and Backsinosa for and on behalf of all the Indian Nations aforesaid and every of them Have given, granted, Bargained, Sold, Released and confirmed, and by these Presents Do and every of them Doth give, grant, bargain, sell, release and confirm unto the said Proprietaries, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, their Heirs, Successors and Assigns, All that Tract and parcell of Land situate, lying and being within the following Limits and Bounds, and thus described, (that is to say) Beginning at the Hills or Mountains called in the Language of Five Nations, Indians, the Tyanuntasachta or Endless Hills, and by the Delaware Indians the Keekachtany Hills, On the East Side of the River Susquehannah, being in the North West line or Boundary of the Tract of Land formerly purchased by the said Proprietaries, from the said Indian Nations, by their Deed of the Eleventh day of October, Anno Dom. One Thousand Seven hundred and Thirty-Six, And from thence running up the said River by the several Courses thereof to the first or nearest Mountain to the North side of the Mouth of the Creek called, in the Language of the said Five Nation Indians, Cantaguy, and in the language of the Delaware Indians, Maghonioy, and from thence extending by a direct or Straight line to be run from the said Mountain on the North side of the said Creek to the main branch of Delaware River, at the North side of the Mouth of the Creek called Lechawachsein and from thence to return across Lechawachsein Creek aforesaid down the River Delaware, by the several Courses thereof, to the Kekachtany Hills aforesaid, and from thence by the range of the said Hills to the Place of Beginning, as more fully appears in and by the Map or Draught hereunto annexed,* in which the several lines, courses and Boundaries of the said hereby intended to be granted Premises are for the better explanation and distinction thereof described in Red Lines, And also all the parts of the said Rivers Susquehannah and Delaware, from shore to shore, which are opposite to the said hereby granted Tract of Land, and all the Island in the said Rivers, or either of them, Together with all the Soils, Lands, Fields, Woods, under Woods, Mountains, Hills, Valleys, Savannahs, Fenns, Swamps, Isles, Lakes, Rivers, Creeks, Waters, Rivulets, Bays, Inlets, Mines, Minerals, Quarries, Rights, Liberties, Privileges Advantages, Hereditaments and Appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining, and all the Right, Title, Intrest, Property, Claim and Demand Whatsoever of the said Canasatêgo Sataganâchly Kanalshyiacayôn, Canechwadeêron, Cayianôckea, Hants-

* See Lithograph Sheet.



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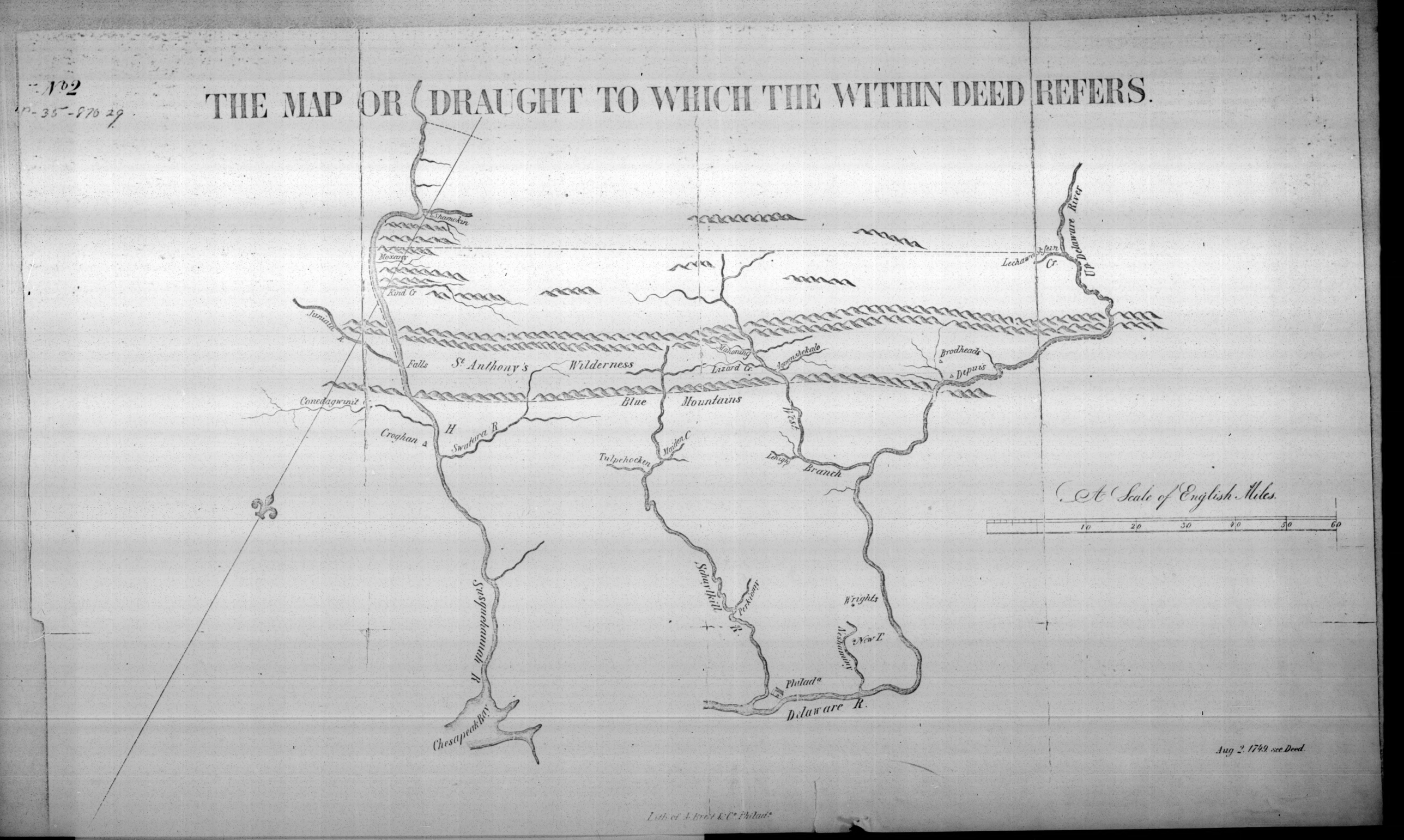
THE MAP OR DRAUGHT TO WHICH THE WITHIN DEED REFERS.



Lith. of A. Brett & Cº Philadª

sany, Agash Tass, Caruchianachqui, Peter Ontachsax, Christian Diaryhogon, Saristagnoah, Watshatuhon, Anuchnaxqua, Tâwis Tâwis, Kachnoaraaseha, Ta Kachquoantas, Tyierox, Ralickwanonach-shy, Tachnechdorus Sago guchiâthon, Cachnaora Katack-Ke, Nutimus Qualpaghach and Backsinosa or any of them or of any Person or Persons of or belonging to the Indian Nations aforesaid, every or any of them, To have and to hold the said Tract of Land and Parts of the said Several Rivers of Susquehannah and Delaware herein before described, Hereditaments and Premises hereby granted and Released or mentioned or intended so to be and every part and parcell thereof, with their and every of their Appurtenances unto the said Proprietaries, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, their Heirs, Successors and Assigns, To the only proper use and Behoof of the said Proprietaries Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, their Heirs, Successors and Assigns for ever, So that neither the said Canastêgo, Sataganâchly, Kanalshyiacayôn, Canechwadeeron, Cayianockea Hantssany, Agash Tass, Caruchianachqui, Peter Ontachsax, Christian Diaryhogon, Saristagnoah, Watshatuhon, Anuchnaxqua, Tawis Tawis, Kachnoaraaseha Ta Kachquoantas, Tyierox, Ralichwanonach-shy Tacknechdôrus, Sago guchiathon, Cachnaora, Katack-Ke, Nutimus, Qualpaghach, Backsinosa, nor any other of the said Indian Nations, nor their or any of their Heirs, Descendants, Successors or Assigns shall or may at any time hereafter have claim, challenge or demand any Right, Title, Interest or Property of, in, or to the said Tract and Parcel of Land, Heriditaments and Premises hereby granted and released or mentioned or intended to be hereby granted and Released, nor any part or parcel thereof, But of and from the same and every part thereof shall be barred and for ever excluded by these Presents, And that the said Proprietaries, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, their Heirs, Successors and Assigns, Shall and Rightfully may from time to time, and at all times, for ever hereafter quietly and Peaceably Have, hold, occupy, Possess and enjoy all and Singular the said herein before described parts of the said Rivers Susquehannah and Delaware, from Shore to Shore, with all the Islands therein, or in either of them, And all the said described Tract of Land, Hereditaments and Premises hereby granted and Released or mentioned or intended so to be with their and every of their Appurtenances, without the Lett, Trouble, hinderance or molestation of the said Canasatêgo Sataganachly, Kanalshyiacayor Canechwadeêron, Cayianockea Hanatssany, Agash Tass, Caruchianachqui, Peter Ontachsax, Christian Diaryhogan, Saristagnoah, Watshatuhon, Anuchnaxqua, Tawis Tawis, Kacknoaraaseha, Ta Kackquoantas, Tyierox, Ralichwanonach-shy Tachnechdorus, Sagoguchiathon, Cachnaora, Katack-Ke, Nutimus, Qualpaghach and Backsinosa, or any of them, or any others of the said Indian Nations, or any of them, or of any other Person or Persons, Claiming or to claim the same or any part thereof, by, from or under them or any of them, in any wise, according to the True intent and mean-

ing of these Presents. In Witness whereof the hereinbefore named Sachems, or Indian Chiefs, for themselves and for and on behalf of all the People of the said several and respective Indian Nations herein before named, and every of them have hereunto set their hands and Seals, at Philadelphia, the Twenty-Second day of August, in the Year of Our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and forty-nine, and in the Twenty-third Year of the Reign of King George the Second over Great Britain, &c.

Oneyders.

ANUCHNAXQUA, [L. S.]

Cayuikers.

TAWIS TAWIS, [L. S.]
KACNOARAASEHA, [L. S.]
TA KACHQUONTAS [L. S.]

Tuscurrorows.

TYIEROX, [L. S.]
RALICHWANANACH-SHY, [L. S.]

Shomokins.

TACHNEEDORUS, [L. S.]
SAGOGUCHIATHON, [L. S.]
CACHNAORA KATACK-KE, [L. S.]

Mohocks.

PETER ONTACHSAX, [L. S.]
CHRISTIAN DIARYHOGON, [L. S.]

Shawanes.

BACKSINOSA, [L. S.]

Delawares.

NUTIMUS, [L. S.]
QUALPAGHACH, [L. S.]

Onontagers.

CANASATEGO, [L. S.]
SATAGANACKLY, [L. S.]
KANALSHYIACAYON, [L. S.]
CANECHWADEERON, [L. S.]

Sinichers.

CAYIANOCKEA, [L. S.]
HANATSANY, [L. S.]
AGASH TASS, [L. S.]
CARUCHIANACHQUI [L. S.]

Oneyders.

SARISTAGNOAH, [L. S.]
WATSHATUHON. [L. S.]

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in the Presence of WILL'M LOGAN, one of the Council of the Province;
EDWARD WARNER; LYNFORD LARDNER, Receiver General of the Province;
WM. PETERS; RICHARD PETERS, Secretary of the Province;
SAM'L KIRK EVANS; JAMES LOGAN, jr., JOSEPH GALLOWAY;
JAMES KINSEY, WILL. HAMILTON, THOMAS LLOYD;
CONRAD WEISER, Interpreter, THOS. COOKSON, THOS. WHARTON, Junr;
CHARLES STOWE, THOMAS CARRELL.

Indorsed.

Pennsylvania ss:

On the first day of May Anno Domini 1751, before me, William Allen, Esqr, Chief Justice of Pennsylvania aforesaid, Personally appeared William Peters and Richard Peters, both of the City of Philadelphia, in the said Province, Gentlemen, and made oath on the Holy Evangelists, that the within Deed being first read and fully explained to the several Indians within named, as Parties thereto and then present, by Conrad Weiser, their Interpreter, the same Deed was on or about the day of the date thereof, by the said several Indians signed (By setting their respective marks thereto as within) Sealed and as their Act and Deed, delivered to the Honourable James Hamilton, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor of the said Province,

&c., for the use of the within named Proprietaries, and that they the said Deponents did then, amongst the Rest of the Witnesses thereto, Subscribe their names to Attest the due execution thereof as within appears. Witness my Hand and Seal the said first day of May, 1751.

WILL. ALLEN. [L. S.]

Recorded the 16th day of May, 1752.*

Deposition of John Murphy, 1749.

Cecil County ss:

John Murphy Mak's Oath on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, that in the Year one thousand Seven Hundred and thirty Six he became a tenant under Henry Baker in a house then built on a Certain trackt or parcel of Land lying in Cecil County, but often Claimed by Joseph England, Some Distance from the sd Joseph England's then present possession to the Westward, but ye sd Deponent Understood that ye sd Joseph England's Claim went Near, or about a Quarter of a Mile More to the West than where he Lived, and that he Lived on sd Land three years and always During sd time paid his taxes and Customs to Maryland, and that After him James Nevile Lived on sd Land, then Robert Mitchel, Who Does Still Continue to Live there to this Day, and is and Ever was within his knowledge adeem'd as Maryland. Sworn before me, this 9th Day of September, 1749.

BENJ'N CHEW.

Deposition of Marg. McCleary, 1749.

Margaret McCleary Mak's Oath on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, that in the year One thousand Seven Hundred and thirty two, her Husband, Robert McCleary, (now Deceas'd) Bought the Plantation Whereon She now Lives, of Henry Baker, and her sd Husband always paid taxes and Customs to Maryland till his Death, and that she has Done So Ever Since; that Joseph England often Demanded Possession of sd Plantation, tho' Never did as She knows of Shew aney Right for it; that She, ye Deponent, Understands the sd Plantation to be the Most Northermost part of a tract of Land, Containing three Hundred Acres, Cautioned by William Brown, which he Sold to one Hughs, a Welchman; that John Sackland Lived on sd place before they came to it, and it Ever was adeem'd as Maryland. Sworn before me, One of his Lordship's Justices of the Peace for sd County, this 9th day of Septbr, 1749.

NATHAN BAKER.

* In office of Recorder of Deeds, Philadelphia, H. Vol. II., p. 204., from which this is printed; the original is at Harrisburg.

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Duplicata

a Quebec le 22. 7bre 1759.

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Mre de la jonquiere

Monseigneur.

ET
ARCHIVES

J'ay eu l'honneur de vous parler dans la lettre que j'ay eu celuy de vous Ecrire le 20 de ce mois pour vous rendre compte des postes de ce gouvernement de la traitte que les domiciliés du Chaud et surtout les Iroquois faisoient avec les Anglois et des ordres que j'ay donnés pour rompre entierement cette liaison.

Du depuis ces sauvages sont venus me complimenter sur mon arrivée, j'ay saisy cette occasion pour leur demander compte de leur conduitte et les quantités sur les dits

traine, leur barraguenne a convenu que la
plupart d'eux l'avoient fait y aye été eng
par le grand marché qu'ils ont trouvé avec les
anglois pour tout ce qui leur est necessaire;
tandis qu'ils l'auroient payé bien cher en
l'retournant chez leur e Marchandise des Hom
Jolcon ay dit tout ce qui convient pour leur
persuader le mécontentement que j'avois a
d'eux et leur faire promettre d'abandonner
Commerce. a quoy ils ne m'ont rien repondu
positif. a mesure fait connoitre qu'ils continuoi
cette liaison jusqu'à ce que leur draps fussent e
aussi bon marché qu'en tout de paix.

Jolcon ay retiré mes dessenses je souhait
qu'ils eussent la vertu de leur convenir, Jay eg
consulté le s R. P. Commissaire Leur missionn
qui m'a certifié que les dits Sauvages avoi
chez les anglois une piece de Drap pour 8
de Castor, de la quelle ils faisoient 12 couv
tandis qu'à Notre Acad on leur demandoi
C.L. de Castor pour une couverte et que d'aille
notre Drap rouge est très vilain, et tout cela
de cette année que j'ay confronté avec le drap

Anglois que ce d'une qualité bien Supérieure)

J'ay fait plusieurs questions avec empressement
sur les arrangements qu'on pourroit prendre
pour empescher les dits sauvages de courir
les habitations chez les anglois, j'ai vû
que plusieurs personnes qui ont
fourni en vain, étoient très avantageux
pour les voyageurs de tromper les sauvages
en commençant par diminuer ou
supprimer la meilleure partie de leur castor
qu'ils font passer par le moyen des sauvages
par des rivières le chemin étoit plus court, ce qui
leur coûte, le rachat aux habitations
françoises, ou ils le font passer impunément
par des sauvages et Iroquois ou a Orange
sans courir aucun risque).

J'ai même ajouté que quand nous établirions
un poste a portée de ces rivières et dominer
nous n'en serions pas plus avancés, par ce que
ces sauvages trouveront d'autres passages
pour faciliter la fraude.

J'ai dit aussy qu'à l'égard des voyageurs

du Détroit, ils pouvoient trouver les anglois
sur leur route, entre le fort Frontenac et Niag
sans que nous puissions l'empêcher, et que de
cette manière ils pouvoient très peu de draps
de Hollande et connoissance la préférence et [illegible]
des anglois, avec lesquels ils pouvoient
pour les payer en castors, à leur rétour.

. Enfin, que pour empêcher toute communi
il nous paroissoit tout le fruit qu'on pouv
pour parvenir à prendre. 1°. de faire
rompre ceux qui étoit pendant la guerre. 2°.
le drap rouge que la Compagnie Luroise
leur bon et que ce drap ne valoit que
sept livres dix sols l'aune comme entre
les mains.

Le dernier moyen pour nous de
souffrir de difficultés, leur marchandise
abondante cette année, et à l'égard des pro
je dois avoir une conférence avec M.
Bigot et nous aurons l'honneur de vous
rendre compte de ce que nous aurons

Devois etre fait a cette occasion.

Je suis avec un très profond respect.

Monseigneur

Votre très humble et
très obéissant serviteur
Lavoisier

ARCHIVES

N. (Copy) Oswego 23d Septr 1749 7

In Obedience to your Excellency's Orders dated 28 May last, inclosed I send you the Account of the Number of Traders, Batteaus & their Cargoes, that have come here this Summer, I also send a Return of the Number of Forreign Indians, Canoes & Cargoes they brought.

The first Summer I was here, I was at as great Pains as I could with the Farr of Indians to promote this Trade and incorporate them with the five Nations, in which I spared no expence, and had all the Assurance from them I could desire, You will see by the Number that have been here this Summer, that their Intentions were to fulfil their Engagements, and there would have been at least one third more Canoes here, had they not been stopt at Niagara by the French, who used them most barbarously. On my hearing this I spirited them up with my utmost endeavours with the five Nations, to go there & protect and defend those Indians in their Liberty, at a Place that belonged to them, and to which they were obliged, those Indians being mostly joined in Alliance with them, but to no purpose, for our five Nations going so often to Comada, seem to have sold themselves to the French, and are as much their Slaves as their own Indians are, I am at daily fresh Expence to make them better and although I be neither enabled or impowered to do any thing, I can not but use my best Endeavours, in an Affair that the Good of the Country does so greatly depend on. I have daily opportunities to see what Pains the

Gov. Clinton. French

French take to gain our five Nations many ways,
and they seem to be in too good a way to succeed, if
the Assembly do not enable your Excellency to
impower Sr. Johnson to take proper means to keep
those nice Cards on our Side, & gain over some
other Leading Indians, the Consequences will be
worse than is proper for me to say, I beg pardon
for this Liberty, and am with great Esteem and
Respect

Your Excellency's

most obedient Servant

Jno. Lindesay Commissy.

A Quebec le 31. 8bre 1749.

M. de Lajonquière

Monseigneuw

Marmet

Les deputez des cinq nations des villages des Montagnez, des Goyoquinz et des Onjotes, sont arrivez a Montreal le 9 de ce mois; et depuis peu ilz ont remis leurs parolles a M. de Longueüil qui ne les a envoyé pour y répondre, ces sauvages ne pouvant venir Jusqu'a Quebec a cause que la saison est trop avancée.

Suivant les dittes parolles, ces sauvages ont fait couvrir les branches de porcelaine qui leur ont été envoyées par le S.r abbé Picquet

parmy toutes leurs maisons, et ils se viennent de
plein de toutes leurs villages (hors les anciens)
querelle et des femmes, même des Chrestiens
qui les ont pries de parler a leur nom pour
m'assurer de leur fidelité et de leur obeissance
Ils me prient de ne point ecouter les mauvais
discours qu'on a fait contre eux, de ne point les
suspecter, mais d'être persuadé qu'ils n'ont
d'autre dessein que de travailler aux choses
affaires

J'ay repondu a leurs parolles par le meme
nombre de colliers qu'ils ont remis, Je leur
temoigné beaucoup de satisfaction de leur voir
prets a faire ma volonté, Je les ay exhorté a
etre fideles au Roy, et je leur ay promis
que moyennant cela, Ie faisois rejaillir sur
eux les bontés de sa Majesté. Je leur ay
fait voir la preuve sensible qu'elle veut
bien leur en donner en les mettant en
de connoitre d'aimer et servir Dieu, par

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l'Etablissement de la Mission du S. Sacrement, qui les y servoient plus commodément que dans tout autre lieu, plus à portée de sçavoir mes intentions, qui ne tendront jamais qu'à leur plus grand avantage et enfin plus en situation de recevoir des preuves de mon affection dans toutes les occasions.

Voilà, Monseigneur, le précis de ces pauvres Iles sauvages et de mes reponses, j'ay donné ordre au P. de Longueuil de les faire partir incessamment pour éviter la dépense que leur séjour occasionneroit.

J'ay l'honneur avec un très profond respect.

Monseigneur

Votre très humble et très obéissant Serviteur

Lauverjat

N. York 25. 1769

yesterday I was att a Councell held by the Six Nations & several other Nations of Indians within a Cout fifty Miles of Lake Ley att an Indian Town where I now Live & Indians Received a Messidge from y. Commander of Fort De Troat Importing that y. Governor of Canada was Much Displesed with y. Insedge his Solgers received from ye y. Indians that was Setled on ohio & to Lett them Now that if the Did Not immediatly Send y. Ling his Breaders home from amongst them & Charge them Never to return that he was Determined to Destroy Disown them for his Children & to Send a party of his Men by y. first of June Next which wold Lay all there Towns in ashes & Distroye them & y. Lives of y. Lett the Indians received the y. Messidge with a Great Dale of Content & is Determind to Give them battle if y. Come y. Indians in Generall hear complain Very Much that y. Governor Dont putt a Stop to his Breadors bringing out Spiritts to Sell after y. many Complaints Made on that Acount there has been Many Indians Killed in Drinking Spills Debeachery whether y. French or English was best Some for y. English & Some

COLLECTION.

And Some for y French & Shive y Most of y Indians
hear are for y English att present but if ther
be Nott a Stop putt to y Bringing of Liquor
out amongst them that two Thirds of them
will go to y French this Spring there are
Several Traders now in y Woods that Brings
Nothing Else but Liquer & Makes y Indians Drun
So that I have a Bout to Do to keep them from
Killing one another I hope y Governor will
putt Stop to any Liquers Comeing out this
Spring y Month of March itt is Comon for
y Traders to Send Down for Liquer & I think
to any of y Justices in y South Valley Might
putt a Stop to Them Bring any as itt is Brought
Throue that Valley

y Indians hear has Recived an Invition from
Coll Cresap & Mr Hugh Parker to go Down to See
y Governor of Maryland which I hope May be
a Determent to y Trade of Pensilvayne as the
want to Enter into y Indian Trade I Cannot
Stop them Down if you think itt
Convenant to Desire y favour of you to give
Me y advice how I Shall behave if y French
Shold Come Capt Trent Can further a Letter to Me
att any Time y Send itt Sr I am with Due
respects y Most Obedient humble Servt

Geo: Croghan

[illegible] Augt 1750 Geo Croghan
Inds. & Fay his Honor
that Comes of y Chiefs of y Indians hear
with this Inclosed

To

Richard Peters

Esq.

in

Philadelphia

Province of the
Massachusetts Bay } To the Honourable Thomas
Phips, Esqr Commander
in Chief in and over his
Majestys Province — And
to the Honble his Majesty's
Council now met in Boston
December 1729 —

May it Please
ours I your Spe
I now humbly
Pages a True Journal & Account of
my Travell to, and from Canada,
Whether Your Honour & Honours
were Pleased to send me, with an
Acco^t of my Conduct with Respect
to my Trust, & the Remarcable Occur
ences that happ
ik. &
my
Whi
Honour and Hon-
Command to me,
the following
; the Reception
Remarks I
To & from Woun
s following —

Aug. 1719. Some time in August Last.
I was appointed by the Honourable
Commissioners then appointed by the
Honourable Court to go to Canada
as their Pilot. I Accordingly Repaired
to my Post at N. A to get my affairs
In order. & Proposed to attend them,
Just as I was Prepared I Received a
Letter from the Honble John Chandler
Esqr. Informing that the Commissioners
were not to go. upon the Receipt
of Which. I with all Speed Repaired
to the Honourable Coll.o Chandler &
from thence by his Direction to Boston
where I rec.d His Excellency Gov.r Shirley
Letter to the Gov.r of Canada as also
his Excellency and your Honours orders
To Proceed with the Same — to y.e Gov.r
of Canada — Sept. 13. I set out from
Boston (Sept. 16 rived at Hadley
where I met my So turned from his
Captivity (Sept. 17 back day at Hadley

(Sept. 18) Proceed to Dursold to Engage
Serg.t Hawks to go with me According
to Order. but he Declining to go.
(Sept. 20) Set out for No. 1 and Lodg.d
at Fort Dummer (Sept. 21) Arrived at
No. 1 where I Remain.d Until (Sept. 26)
when I took with me Ensign John Burk
of my Company instead of Hawks &
Set out for Canada that Night Lodg.d
at Fort Dummer. (Sept. 27) To Dursold
(28) to Hedley (29) Tarried for the finish.g
of my Cloaths &c. Making them.
(30) To Westfield (Oct. 1) Sabbath day
(2) to Town called No. 1 (3) to Canterbrook
(4) to Albany (5. & 6) at Albany Pre-
paring for our Journey (Oct. 7) Having
Agreed with 4 of the Cagnawagon Mohawks
to Conduct us & Carry our Baggage
to Canada we proceeded on our Journey
went 5 Miles up [illegible] Sons River and
Lodged at a Du[illegible] House (8) Proceeded
with our Canoes [illegible] miles to a Dutch
House Rebuilt [illegible] the War

a
n
l

Capt. Phineas Stevens
Journal
of his Journey to Canada 1759

9th) the Water being very low we hired
our Loading Carryed 1 Miles by Land
to Still Water, Then with our Canoes
Proceeded to Saratoga 20 Miles this Day
10th) Went up the River 8 Miles & Lodged
Abroad. Up the River 1 Miles & Come
to the Carrying Place over to Wood
Creek being foul Weather we Tarried
in a House Newly Built by Coll.
Lydias & Mr. Vander Rayden, ——
12) Come to the Upper Carrying Place
8 Miles. this Day we met the Dutch
Embassadors from Canada who had
with them 2 of our Prisoners & were
Refused any more of theirs or theirs —
Under Pretence made by the Indians
that the Province of the Massachusetts
had a Number of St. Francois Indians
Under Confinement In Boston. there
was Also In Company with them a
Frenchman & In[illegible] Come 9 to Boston
by way of New
Trusts of Lt. Col.
to Review the
Travelled 8 Miles

In the Carrying Place with our Canoes Baggage &c (14) Four Miles to ye Lake St Sacrament & Proceeded on s^d Lake in our Canoes 12 Miles & Camped.

This Day we Saw on the Side of the Lake St Sacrament Wigwams of St Francois Indians who Appeard Friendly and One of my Acquaintance Presented me with 2 Wild Geese (15) Sailed 12 Miles on s^d Lake, came to a Wigwam of French Mohawks, they being Acquaintance of our Conductors, we could get no further this day (16) Sailed 20 Miles which brought us over said Lake, and One Mile down a Small River to a Carrying place where we Lodged (17) Carryed our things one Mile then down s^d River with our Canoes to the drowned Lands, then 10 Miles and Lodged (18) it Snowed we lay Still (19) Sailed 5 Miles in Our Canoes and Came to Crown Point where we was kindly Rec^d and handsomely Treated but the Commodant Refused to Let us go

ning further. tell the Arrivall of their
Sloop which he Expected in a Short
time. with which he Expected Orders
to Stop all that Shou'd come from
New England. the Vessell Comeing that
Night and bringing no Such Orders
(26.) after Dinner the Commodant
gave us Libberty to Proceed on our
Journy. Bad Weather and Contrary
Winds. Retarding us we did not
Arrive at St Johns on Shamble
River Untill the (26.) which is a
Large Fort mostly of Timber. about
12 Miles above Shamble Fort. at St
Johns is the Place where they load
their Vessell in order to Supply. Crown
Point. At this Fort the Commodant
Absolutely Refused our Proceeding —
Untill he had Orders from the Gov.r of
Mountreall. the Officer sent one of
our Indian Company to Mountreall with
a Letter. (27) Continued at said Fort —

28) Having a Convenient Opportunity by a Cart going to Lapperary the Commodore gave leave we Should go forward, but if we met Counter Orders. to Return. about half way we met a french man. with horses. from the Gov. to fetch us we came to Lapperary a little before Night which is from S. Johns 15 Miles. in Travelling this 15 Miles, I observed the vast Labour and pains take to make a Passable Road from S. Johns. to Lapperary 12 miles of which was every Mile full of Timber. they have Cut the Road 2 Rods wide. they have made a Causeway with Timber. dug a trench on each Side which earth Covers the Timber. the land being so very wet they are Obliged to lay a Number of drains from these trenches to great distances taking all Advantage of fall of ground and run of Water. this Road is not yet quite completed. finished it will be a very good Causeway

and will Render the Suppying of Crown Point much easier then by the former way of Sham.ble

after we had refreshed ourselves the ferryman told us he had orders to carry us Immediately that Night to Mountreall we Directly set off and Arrived at the Governours about Eight a Clock. it being 9 Miles by Water the Gov. Received us very kindly and ask us to Sup with him; which Accordingly I did. the Gov. told me he should ask me no Questions that Night (Oct. 29) Waited upon the Gov. that Morning who Interrogated me very Particular what was my Business I delivered the Publick Letter which he demanded of me all the Private Letters. he Understanding that I had no Speciall Order to treat with the Gen.erall told me he thought Not Proper to go to Quebeck that he would

send the letter by an Express and if the
the Gov. General thought it Necessary
he would send for me if not I might Expect
upon the Expresses return. to be sent Im-
mediately home at the same time he
Strictly forbid my having any Con-
versation with the Indians and Shut-
ned if he perceived I had I should be
Immediately Confin'd. gave orders to
my landlord the Kings Interpreter to
keep us allways Under his Inspection.
Continued at Montreall Eight days
where I was very well entertained I made
it my Constant Business to Enquire
after Prisoners. could here of but three
English from Our Parts Viz.t Dan.l Eaton
son to the Widow Eaton of Plumsick now
at Jacheck in the hands of the French
also a Small Boy Named John (alias)
Jon.a Doar.* taking from Rochester
in Newhampshire now in the hand
of the St. Francois Indians. and a
Small Girl Daughter to the Widow

* Name copied by the Secretary of the 27 June, 1746. He returned to [illegible] 1747.

Forster of Casco Bay. She is now kept at 3 Rivers but belongs to a Gentleman at Mountreall Who designs her for the Nunnery. — There is also a Num.r of Indians belonging to Cape Cod. two of which I saw at Mountreall Sold for Slaves who were very Uneasy and take it very hard that they are not treated as the rest of King Georges Subjects. there are two more with the Canadian Indians One of them I saw at Crown Point who has Marr. One of their Squaws, and has no Desire to come home he told Me his Name was Isaac Pick. the other I did not see there is more in the Country but could not find out where they Lived. while at Mountreall I was Informed by a Dutch Prisoner from Lubeck — Named David Abeals. who came home with me that he saw two Ships Loading with Indian Slaves. Such

as Slays Snow Shoes &c. Suitable for a Winters Expedition and as he will Understood the french Language he Accidentally Discovered they were Designed for Chebuco. Nov. 5. the Express Returned to Mountreall with the Answer to Governour Shirleys Letter. the 6 of Nov. I was Ordered Home I desired Libberty to tarry. One day Longer. the Govr. told me the Orders from the Gov. Generall was so Strict he could not grant me the favour I Accordingly set out with an Officer and 5 Soldiers who had orders to bring me to Crown point. Lodged at Lapperary that Night. As to Mountreall it is Incompast by a Wall and intrenched on the Land side a Wall about 18 foot High from the bottom of the Trench which is about 18 foot Deep and 16 wide the wall 18 foot high on the water side and no trench. the main

Battery. is in the N. Westerly Corner of the City on a Rise of Land which over looks the wall all round. about 60 Rods Westerd of the City there is a rise of Land higher than the Top of the wall (Nov. 7) to Shamble Fort where we were handsomely treated by the Commodant (8) to St Johns 12 Miles. (9) went on board a Large Batteau. as I have it above I here Note that at the Empting of the Lake into Shamble River there is a Wind mill. Built of Stone it Stands on the East Side of the Water and several all Houses on both Sides built before the War. but One inhabited at Present. this Day we Came with our Oars about 10 Miles turn'd up a Stream on the West side of the Lake about one Mile where there was an Officer with near One hundred Men

Navy

building Ship Timber the Officer had a Comfortable House the Men Barrack to Live in here we Lodged. (10) we came to an Island in the Lake and Lodged (the 11. & 12) Lay wind bound (13) to Crown Point (14) Tarried at Crown point being now best to care for our Selves I hired two Cagnauwaugen Indians to Assist us as far as Coll.o Lydias House at the Carrying Place to Wood Creek. As to Crown Point it is a Large Stone Fort I Judge about 12 or 14 Rods Square of which I conclude your Honours have often had a Description I therefore beg leave only to note down some things in Respect to the Citidell within said Fort as that it lies intirely distinct from the Walls of Fort I passing intirely Around it It is 4 Storys high each Story Contains 4 Convenient Rooms the Petitions are walls of Stone of great thickness

each Story Arched over with Stone of great thickness for. its 21 Large Stone Steps from one Story to an Other each Room has one very Large Window three or four. feet wide 7. or. 8 high the Commodant Lives in the Third Storry where there are two such Windows. in his Room I saw. 110 Small Arms. 50 of them fixt with Bayonetts and about 30 pair of Pistolls. I had n.. Opportunity to Discover the Number of Cannon in the Fort and Citadell the hill often Spoke of Wedderly of the Fort I Judge to be not above. 40 Rods Distance and Considerable higher than the Top of the Wall. I would here further Note there are 18 Houses near Crown point Some on each side of the Water but not all inhabited at Present. (25) took our Departure with the Indians in a burtch Canoe

came about. 5 Miles found so much
Ice. we Could go no further (16. V. 18)
Lodged here waiting for the Ice,
being Strong enough to bear us—
(19) drew our Canoes on the Ice—
about 7 Miles found it very difficult
(all) Sverall. times into the Water)
(20) drew our Canoes 3 Miles further
on the Ice found it so weak we could
not Travell (21) Lay Still (22) Travels
On the Ice Leaving our Canoe (23)
passed by the Mouth of Wood Creek—
into a Large pond which has a
Small Communication to the—
drowned Lands. Lying to the W
of the Mouth of Wood Creek—
(24) Travell'd over said pond about
2 or 3 Miles in Length, and then two
or three Miles up a Small River
we here took our packs on our backs

and Travelled in an Indian path
trodden by them in their desents up
on the dutch this Last War and not
before, Nevertheless its so trod that
we Could easily follow it altho the
Snow was 4 or 5 Inches deep (25) we
travelled in said Rd (26) we Came
to Hudsons River in the Morning
about 5 Miles above Coll° Lydius
Trading house this Carrying
Place from where we first took
up our packs I Judge to be 22 Miles
to Hudsons River the Travelling
Levell and Exceeding good. Extent
about 2 Miles. where we first left
the aforesaid Small River. the Course
of this Carrying place is N°E we
Came to Lydias Trading this day
where I had a Convenient Opportunity
to Converse with the Cagnauwagen
Indians by the help of Coll° Lydias

Son who Could Speak the Languge
well & of them being Inquisitive they
Manifested a great desire to live in
peace and said they should be very
glad to have Opportunity to tell the
English know it I told them it was
their own fault or they might
have Continued in peace however
notwithstanding their breach of
former Covenants if they come to
the English to seek their favour
I doubted not but that our Rulers
would receive them and make
them welcome I told them I was
desired by some of our Rulers to
Invite them to Boston and further
told them notwithstanding the
Prohibition of the French Gov-
while I was in Canada & now being
out of his Reach Embraced this Oppor-
tunity to send them a belt of Wampum

to be 156 delivered to their Chiefs desireing
them to Come to Boston saying to
them if your Chiefs upon Receiving
this Belt Shall be disposed to Come
they may Come by Albany or N.A
if they come by the way of Albany
Coll.o Lydias will take care to Con-
duct them if by the way of N.A I
will take care to Conduct them to
the Governour. they received the Belt
and Message Chearfully and promised
to deliver them both faithfully.
(Nov. 27) I left Coll.o Lydias House
and made the best Speed hither
Dec.r 11) I Arrived at Cambridge and
Delivered the Letter to your Honour.

The Foregoing is Humbly Submitted
By Your Honours & Honours Most
Dutyfull & Most Obedient
Servt
Phinehas Stevens

Boston Dec.r 15. 1749

12-1-1749

To Mr Robert Smith

I should have been glad to have seen you when you came to the Loggs Town, as I should have had a great many things to talk with you about, I shall only now inform you that I dayly expect in a Cargo of Indian Goods worth fifteen or Sixteen Thousand Pounds sorted in the best manner for the Virginia Ohio Company of which I am a Member and am to have the disposing of them; when you return from the Miamis Country you may have what Sortments and Quantities you think you can dispose off and I can supply you with Horses &c. The Goods were ordered to be divided equally of each sort and sent in two different Vessells for fear of a Miscarriage in One

I am informd you have a great interest with the Miamis and that many of their chiefs are to come in with you in the Spring, I must recommend it You to bring them to Virginia as the only Proper Goverment for them to come to, being the chiefest of y English Govern on the Continent the Virginians are determind to push the Trade to Alleg: heny with Vigour, we expect to have a considerable sum of money settled on the Indians out of his Majestys revenue of the Colony for a Yearly Present to be made the Indians after the manner of New York Goverment And young men of spirit that will goin them may depend upon Encour: agement and I can tell you that your bringing the Miamis to the Virginia Goverment will not only recommend you to Gentlemen in Trade but to the Governour and Councill who are mostly interested in the undertaking, and you may also Depend upon being taken Notice off in a Different manner from

from what Traders generally are in Pennsylvania, where I think after their great fatigue in getting Skins they are only Treated as Slaves by those who get most by them; but in Virginia I expect to see them Treated as Gentlemen I have a Generall good will to Youngmen of Spirit and think there will be an opportunity forseverall to make their fortunes by Joining the Virginians in the Indian Trade We expect a Treaty with the Six Nations in the Spring and should be glad to have a Treaty with the Miamis at the same time which I hope is in Your Power to bring about you may depend upon their being well used, I wish you health and prosperity and am

Old Town
December the 1st. 1749

Your Sincere Friend
Hugh Parker

P.S. The Ohio Company consists of Sixteen Gentlemen the Duke of Bedford principle Secretary of State at Our head, Mr Hanbury one of the greatest Merch.ts In Europe Col.o Thomas Lee now Governour of Virginia and the rest gentlemen of Fortune in Virginia & Maryland Col.o Cresap myself We have the sanction of King and Parliament for undertaking and I am now buying up Provisions and engaging Workmen to build at the Mouth of Wills Creek where we purpose to open our first store we shall have Wampum & Silver Trinck for

Yrs as above HP

We shall sell Strouds Duffells & Blankets at Nine Pound ₤ps and Powder at Nine Pound ₤ Barrel and other goods in proportion

To

Mr Robert Smith

at

The Miamis Coun[try]

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Monday the 10th December, 1749.

PRESENT:

Thomas Lawrence,	Samuel Hasell,	Esqrs.
Robert Strettell,	Benjamin Shoemaker,	
Thomas Hopkinson,	William Logan,	
	Richard Peters.	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The following Affidavit taken before Daniel Broadhead, Esquire, one of the Justices of the County of Bucks, relating to an Obstruction made by some Æsopus or Mohiccon Indians to Edward Sculls' surveying Lands within the New Purchase was read, and is as follows:-

"On the seventh Day of November, in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty, Personally appeared before me, Daniel Broadhead, Esquire, one of his Majestie's Justices of the Peace for the County of Bucks, John Williams, Philip Dewees, and John Fish, who on their Solemn Oaths did declare, That being employed by Edward Scull to assist him in Surveying Lands for the Honourable the Proprietaries within the late Purchase made of the Indians, and having proceeded to the Fork of Lechawacksein Creek, were on Sunday the twenty-eighth Day of October last overtook by two Indians, vizt: Cap^{n} Allamouse and Clitches, who informed Edward Scull that they were sent by their King Tattanhiek, to prevent his making any Survey of Land on the Creek aforesaid, or on any of its Branches, alledging that the Land belonged to them. Upon which the Captains aforesaid not speaking good English, Edward Scull proposed that one of them should go to an Indian who lived about six miles off, whom they informed him could speak good English, in order that they might the better understand one another, the said Scull declaring at the same time that had he the least Suspicion of meeting with any opposition he would have brought an Interpreter with him. Hereupon Captain Clitches went to the Indian's Cabbin, but returned without him, he being from home. Edward Scull, therefore, on being informed that their King could speak English, resolved to go to his Cabbin, distant about fourteen miles, which he accordingly did the next day, and ordered us to accompany him thither. When We came there the said Scull desired of Tattenhick that he would inform him why he sent the Indians above-mentioned to hinder him from surveying the Land he was ordered by the Governor of Pennsylvania to servey for the Proprietaries Use, informed him that the Land he intended to survey was sold about fourteen months before by the Five Nations, shewed him a Draught of the Purchase, and assured him that it was an exact Copy of another Draught which was annex't to

the Deed which the Five Nations made to the Proprietaries. He likewise desired Tattenhick to give him a positive answer whether he was determined to oppose him in the Execution of the Governor's Orders respecting the Surveying Lands for the Proprietaries agreeable to the Boundaries laid down in the Draught aforesaid, and received for answer that the Land on Lechawacksein, and a considerable distance to the Southward, belonged to him and his People, that if the Mohocks had disposed of it they had done what they had no Right to do, and that we must leave the parts and not attempt to survey Land on Lechawacksein Creek. The thirtieth of October we returned to Lechawacksein, accompanied by Tattenhick, and six Indians with their Guns, who after some Converse among themselves were unanimous in insisting on our leaving the Parts, which we did the same day, and got to a path leading from Wyoming to one John Vanetta's, on Delaware, in the Evening, and came to his House the Saturday following, where Tattenhick promised Edward Scull (and the Proposal was of Tattenhick's proposing) to meet him the next Day, but did not perform his Promise. And further these Deponents say not.

"Sworn before me the Day and Year above-mentioned.

"DANL. BROADHEAD."

Another Affidavit of like Tenor made by ———— before the same Justice was likewise read.

The Board had under consideration a Letter from Mr. Trent, wherein he demanded two hundred and forty-five Pounds for the Carriage of the Indian Present to Ohio, and desired to be favoured with the Governor's Answer. The Secretary was ordered to shew the Letter to the Speaker and to some of the Members in Town, and to know what their Sentiments were about the Demand, and to write them to Mr. Trent.

At a Council at his Honour's House, Thursday, January the 10th, 1750, A. M.

PRESENT:

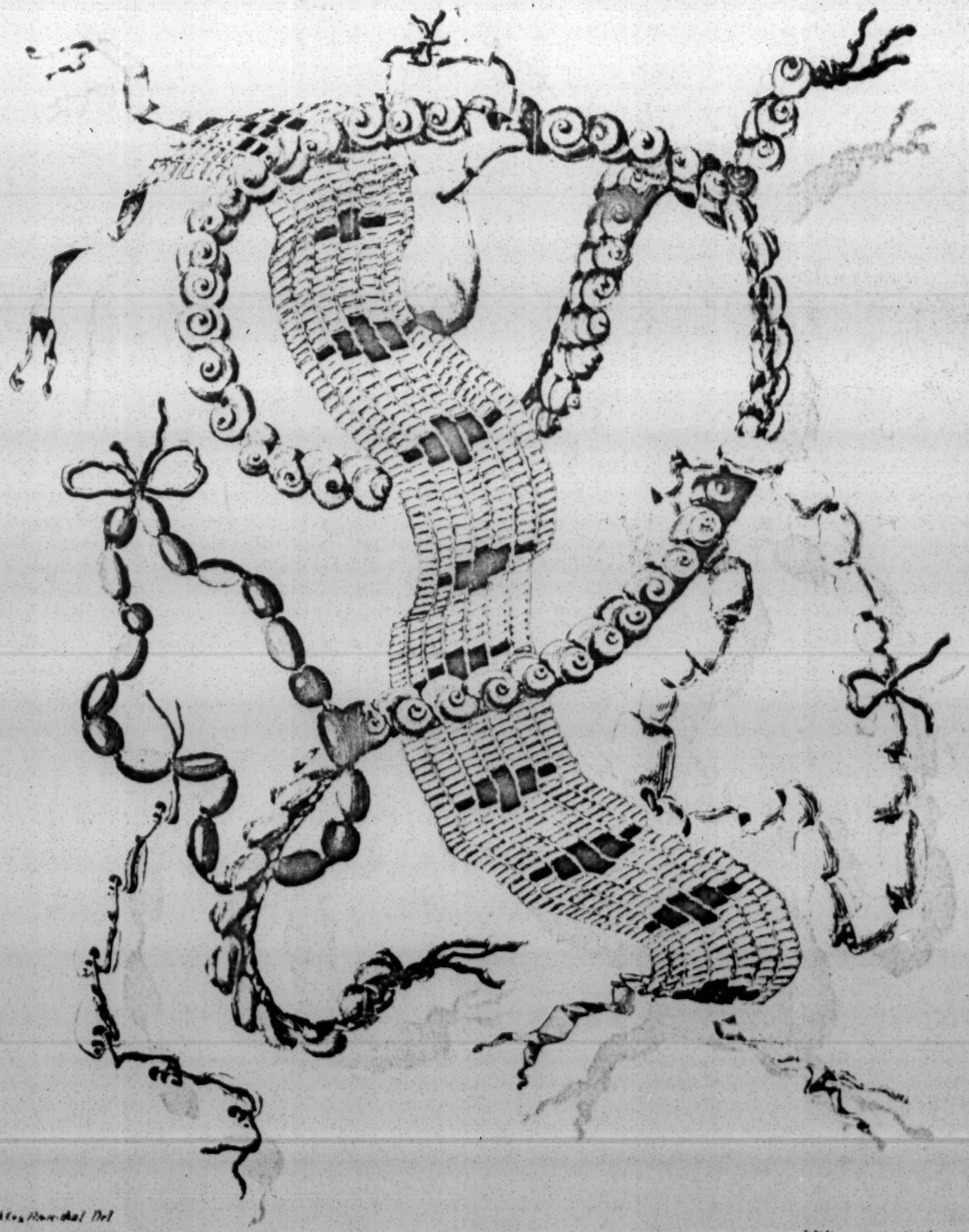
The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,	Joseph Turner,	Esquires.
Samuel Hassel,	Thomas Hopkinson,	
Robert Strettell,	William Logan,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor acquainted the Board that a sufficient Number of the Members of Assembly to make a House had not met on the

PLATE. V.



4 Decembr 3

Letter from the Board of Trade to Mr Sherwin Robinson with the Copy of a Letter from Mr Dinwiddie Governor of Virginia with the Minutes of the Assembly of that Province relative to the measures they were pursuing to resist the encroachments of the French on the Ohio - - -

first, and I am ready to join with you to enact such Laws as may be for the Interest of the Province.

"What the service of the Publick requires will naturally fall under your notice, I shall only at present recommend to you Unanimity and Despatch in all your Proceedings, and what further may occur shall at a proper time be communicated by Message.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"January 15th, 1750."

Memorandum of what passed between the Governor and some members of Assembly at his House.

Tuesday, January 8. Mr. Pemberton and Mr. Fox came to me at six afternoon and acquainted me that by order of the House of Representatives they waited on me to acquaint me that a Quorum was met and were ready to receive any thing I had to lay before them.

I asked Mr. Pemberton whether a Quorum had met on the seventh, the Day to which they stood adjourned, or how many had met on that Day, to which he answered twenty-one Members and no more; whereupon I replied that twenty-one not being two-thirds of those who ought to have met, I could not consider them as a House untill they were called by my authority, and that at present I looked upon it that they were absolutely dissolved unless I pleased to make them a House; But however I would send an answer in writing to *them*, or to the *House* (I know not which, but it is probable I might say thro' Inadvertance *the House*) in the Morning. Accordingly I prepared an Answer and caused it to be delivered on the ninth in the morning by the Secretary to the two Gentlemen who brought me the Message. About one o'the Clock on the ninth Mr. Norris, Mr. Pemberton, and Mr. Fox came to me as Friends not as Assembly men, and we had a long conference on the subject matter of the Debate, but came to no conclusion, as my answer of the ninth Instant delivered to Mr. Pemberton and Mr Fox was not communicated to the Assemblymen. Mr. Pemberton gave it me back, and I told them I would call my Council in the morning to advise with about it. Accordingly in the morning of the tenth the Council met, and agreed upon the Speech, &c^a and from my house adjourned to the Council Chamber. I then sent the Message by Mr. Hopkinson, and instead of coming according to my Request, After waiting some time Mr. Pemberton and Mr. Ashbridge &c^a to the number of eight, brought me the Message from their Brethren, to which I answered that if they brought the Message as from a House of Assembly I could not receive it as such because I did not look upon them to be a House till they were made so by me. I then sent them my Message, which was before verbally delivered in writing by Mr. Hopkinson.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Saturday, 19th January, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Samuel Hasell, } Esquires.
Robert Strettell, Joseph Turner, }

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The following Letter from Governor Clinton and another from Mr. Croghan, at Ohio, were read, and the following Message was thereupon drawn up and sent to the Assembly:

A Letter from Governor Clinton to Governor Hamilton.

"FORT GEORGE in New York, 18th December, 1750.

"Sir:

"I take this early opportunity to acquaint you with my Intentions to meet the Six Nations of Indians and their Allies at Albany the first week in June next, in hopes of confirming in the British Interest and defeating the Intrigues of the French, who of late late have been very active among them, and by the large Quantities of Goods they have distributed to the several Nations may have rendered their Fidelity to the English very precarious.

"The Expense this Government hath continually supported to preserve the Indians in a good Disposition towards us has been very burthensome, and the great Pains the French are taking to seduce them will greatly increase this charge, which any single Colony will be unable to bear. If the other Colonies should neglect joining therein it may give our Rivals the advantage they have been long labouring to obtain over the English Governments, and in the end be a means of our losing the Indians and with them a very valuable Branch of Trade, Besides the Calamities we may have reason to fear from their going over to the French, which are too obvious to need mentioning.

"The present wavering Disposition of the Indians may in a great measure be imputed to their dread of the French, which will ever influence their conduct as long as the Colonies remain disunited in their measures. But if they see we are united and resolved hereafter to act in conjuction their fears will disperse, and they may easily be brought to look with Contempt on what they before dreaded, seeing they might then rely on a powerful Assistance from us if the French should attack them. And as nothing can more tend to his Majestie's Service and the welfare and Safety of his Provinces than this union of Councils amongst the several Governors upon Indian Affairs, I do now communicate my thoughts on this Head to all the Governors of the British Colonies upon the main

of America, in hopes that they will see the necessity of establishing such an Union, and if they cannot attend the Treaty at Albany in Person, then to send Commissioners to concert and conclude on the necessary measures to be taken on this important occasion, assuring myself they will come furnished with proper Presents to be distributed among the Indians at this meeting, at which I flatter myself with your Excellency's assistance or that of Commissioners from your Government.

"If this Proposal of an Interview between the several Governors or Commissioners representing them be approved of, and they meet accordingly, it will I conceive be very proper they should examine into and draw up a State of the Indian Affairs to be laid before his Majesty, and at the same time consider whether it would not be a proper step to agree on a Representation to the Governor General of Canada touching the conduct of some of the Governors and officers under him, who have been guilty of Infractions of the Treaties of Peace Subsisting between Great Britain and France, and particularly of the 15th Article of the Treaty of Utrecht, especially if it is done with such a concurrence upon good Proofs which I hope all who know of any such will come furnished with, or with the means of procuring them.

"Some other Governments I send this Letter to may possibly think they have no concern with Indian Affairs, because other Provinces lay between them and the Indians; But if our Indians should be gained by the French they may soon be induced to Harrass the Colonies lying between such other Governments and the Indians, so as to oblige the Inhabitants to desert them, as lately happened to the greatest Part of the County of Albany in this Province. In this case (which God avert) they will find when too late that they had an Interest in Indian Affairs, to which if they had duly attended these dreadful consequences might for ever have been prevented; And as the very news of such an union of Councils must on the one hand greatly encourage the Indians to be steady to the British Interest, so on the other it may tend to discourage the French from continuing their Endeavours to draw over our Indians from us. I am with very great regard,

"Sir, Your Honour's most obedient humble Servant,

"G. CLINTON.

"The Hono^ble^ JAMES HAMILTON, Esq."

A Letter from Mr. Croghan to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

"LOGSTOWN on Ohio, December the 16th, 1750.

"Sir:

"Yesterday Mr. Montour and I got to this Town, where we found

thirty Warriors of the Six Nations going to War against the Catawba Indians; they told us that they saw John Cœur about one hundred and fifty miles up this River at an Indian Town, where he intends to build a Fort if he can get Liberty from the Ohio Indians; he has five canoes loaded with Goods, and is very generous in making Presents to all the Chiefs of the Indians that he meets with; he has sent two Messages to this Town desiring the Indians here to go and meet him and clear the Road for him to come down the River, but they have had so little Regard to his Message that they have not thought it worth while to send him an answer as yet. We have seen but very few of the Chiefs of the Indians they being all out a hunting, but those we have seen are of opinion that their Brothers the English ought *to have a Fort on this River* to secure the Trade, for they think it will be dangerous for the Traders to travel the Roads for fear of being surprised by some of the French and French Indians, as they expect nothing else but a War with the French next Spring. At a Town about three hundred miles down this River, where the Chief of the Shawonese live, a Party of French and French Indians surprised some of the Shawonese and killed a man and took a woman and two children Prisoners; the Shawonese pursued them and took five French Men and some Indians Prisoners; the Twightwees likewise have sent word to the French that if they can find any of their People, either French or French Indians, on their hunting Ground, that they will make them Prisoners, so I expect nothing else but a War this Spring; the Twightwees want to settle themselves some where up this River in order to be nearer their Brothers the English, for they are determined never to hold a Treaty of Peace with the French. Mr. Montour and I intend as soon as we can get the Chiefs of the Six Nations that are Settled here together, to sollicit them to appoint a Piece of Ground up this River to seat the Twightwees on and kindle a Fire for them, and if possible to remove the Shawonese up the River, which we think will be securing those Nations more steady to the English Interest. I hope the Present of Goods that is preparing for those Indians will be at this Town some time in March next, for the Indians, as they are now acquainted that there is a Present coming, will be impatient to receive it, as they intend to meet the French next Spring between this and Fort De Troit, for they are certain the French intend an Expedition against them next Spring from Fort De Troit. I hear the Owendaets are as steady and well attached to the English Interest as ever they were, so that I believe the French will make but a poor hand of those Indians. Mr. Montour takes a great deal of Pains to promote the English Interest amongst those Indians, and has a great sway amongst all those Nations; if your Honour has any Instructions to send to Mr. Montour, Mr. Trent will forward it to me. I will see it delivered

to the Indians in the best manner, that your Honour's Commands may have their full Force with the Indians.

"I am, with due respects,

"Your Honour's most humble Servant,

"GEO. CROGHAN.

"The Honoble. JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr."

—

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"I received by the last Post the Letter herewith laid before you from his Excellency the Governor of New York; and as it contains matters of very great Importance to the Inhabitants of all his Majestic's Colonies on this Continent, and to none more than those of this Province, I must desire you to take the Contents thereof into your most serious Consideration.

"I am pleased to find by a letter from Mr. Croghan of the sixteenth of November, from Ohio, which came to my hand two days ago, that all our Indian Allies in those Parts as yet remain true to their Engagements with Us, and that some of them are desirous of removing nearer to their Brethren the English, with a view, no doubt, of receiving Protection from them against the French, with whom they expect to be at War in the Spring; but as that Letter contains several Matters worthy your greatest Attention, I choose to lay the whole of it before you without any comments of my own, which I am perswaded would be unnecessary at this time.

"The Money voted at your last Sessions as a Present to the Indians at Ohio has been laid out to the best Advantage in Goods proper to the occasion; Great Part of them has been some time since transported over Sasquehannah and there securely lodged in order to their being carried more early in the Spring to the People for whom they are designed; the Remainder is yet in Town for want of Carriages to transport them thither, but shall be sent up as soon as the Roads will permit. But as all the Money given for this Service was invested in Goods, and no Provision made that I know of to pay the Charge of their Conveyance to Ohio, I must desire you to think of this and provide accordingly. The sum demanded for their Transportation is Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds, which appears to me to be very high; but by all the Enquiry I have been able to make, I do not find I can get it done for less by any Persons in whom I can place a Confidence.

"I have nothing to add, but to assure you that whatever you enable me to do at this difficult Season shall be perform'd to the

best of my Judgment, with a strict regard to the Interest of the Province.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"January 19, 1750."

The following Paper enclosed by the Proprietaries in a letter to the Governor, containing the Reasons why the Bill Entitled "An Act for imposing a Duty on Persons convicted of heinous Crimes, and to prevent poor and impotent Persons being imported into this Province," was not presented to his Majesty in Council, was read and ordered to be laid before the Assembly:

"*Memorial for the Honourable THOMAS PENN, Esqr., relating to Pensilva. Acts, imposing Dutys on Persons convicted of heinous Crimes, and imported into Pensilva. as Servants or otherwise.*

"1. Anno. 1722. The first act of that sort was past.

"2. May, 1729. A Second Act was passed for laying a Duty on Foreigners & Irish Servants, &c., imported into the Province.

"3. Feb., 1729. A Third Act, more compleat itself, was past, & that Act repealed both the former.

"4. Sept., 1738. A Fourth Supplementary Act was past, only appointing a new Collector of the Duty in Place of Charles Read, dece'd.

"Feb., 1742. A Fifth act was past imposing a Duty on Persons convicted of heinous Crimes bro^t into the Province and not warranted by the Laws of Great Britain, & to prevent poor and impotent P'sons being imported into the same. And the Act (had it been approved) did in Terms repeal all the four former Acts. But on 5th Decr 1746, the Lords of Trade reported *ag't* the Allowance of it for the Reasons contained in their Report (Copy of which Report was sent over then to Pensilv^a); and the King soon after w'ds disallowed that Act of 1742. The fourth Act was regularly laid before the King *himself* in his Privy Council, and was never disallowed, nor can *now* be disallowed by the Crown agreeable to the Charter.

"The third, second, & first Acts duly laid *before the Board of Trade* (in the manner as *other* American Acts at those times were), and were actually considered by the Board of Trade, and yet were never reported against or disallowed.

"From whence it may be *said* that they are become subsisting Acts, and not repealable by the Crown.

"And if that be *true* the third act is now in full Force, and that third Act repeals the first and second Acts.

"Augt 1749. Accordingly that 3d Act (of Feb., 1729) being in Force, the Assembly of Pensilv^a have by a Sixth Act of August,

1749, appointed a new officer to collect the Duty imposed by that third Act in the Place of Chas Read, dece'd.

"This Act of Augt 1749, recites, that the Circumstances of the Province since repealing the Act of 1742, require that the Act of Feb^{y}, 1729, sho^{d} be put in Execu^{n} *until one better adapted to the Circumstances of the Province Sho'd be provided.*

This Act of Augt 1749, has *not* been laid before the King in Co^{ll} (along with the other Acts which were past in the same Sessions) for the following Reasons, viz.:

"When the Lords of Trade in Decr 1746, reported for the Disallowance of the Fifth Act past in 1742, which then lay before them upon his Majestie's Reference, they, most unexpectedly, did also report for the Disallowance of the *three old acts* of 1722 & of May, 1729, & Feb., 1729. Their Reason for reporting ag^{t} those *old acts* was that they were in Substance the same or like to the Act of 1742, and they tho^{t} those Acts, *old as they were*, were *equally liable* to the Crown's approbation or Disapprobation, because they had been laid *only before the Board of Trade and not before the Privy Council.* This was an extraordinary Attempt of the Board of Trade upon a Point which had never been decided nor ever made before. And if that Point was to be confirmed, & that thereupon an Act of the Year 1722 might be disallowed in the year 1746, after a Space of 24 years, there was no saying *how far* the Crown might go back, & the Crown might possibly under the like Pretence proceed now to disallow *any the very oldest* Laws or Constitutions of the Province.

"Which was a matter of infinite Importance.

"Wherefore the Proprietors immediately petitioned the King not to confirm so much of the Board of Trade's Report as advised the Repeal of the *s'd old acts*, but to have an opportunity to be heard *ag't that Part* of the Report.

"And by such Petition the Proprietors stopped any immediate Repeal going from hence of *those old acts* of 1722 & of May, 1729, & Feb., 1729.

"If the Practice of laying American Acts *(heretofore)* before the Board of Trade instead of laying them before the Privy Council, shou'd come to an Examination & shou'd be finally determined to have been *wrong*, the consequences are very dreadful; for perhaps all the Acts so laid are *null & void* for not having been laid within five years before the Privy Council; but *at least* it may lett in the Crown to consider them and to repeal them (if the Crown thinks fit) at any age or Distance of Time whatever.

"Therefore it was thought by much the most prudent way *to delay* the Affair & not to come to a Decision of such a mischievous Question; & therefore the Reference of the Proprietors s^{d} Petition was kept back & with some difficulty prevented from being heard.

But that Delay of the same was obtained on Intimations being given to the Board of Trade that the Assembly of Pensilvania (in order to make the Decision of that Question here wholly *unnecessary*) would pass a *new Act*, clear of the then present Objections, and therein would *themselves* repeal all the four unrepealed Acts of 1722, of May, 1729, of Feb., 1729, & of Septr. 1738. This it was imagined might be easily undertaken, for because in the Act of 1742 the Assembly had *(once already)* actually repealed all those four former Acts, but such their Repeal was it self repealed here so as to become of no Force.

"But now, after waiting three years for a new Act, to be like to that of 1742 in all Things save what the Board of Trade objected to in that Act, & to contain a Repeal *again* of the four old Acts, The Assembly have proceeded upon the Foot of one of those old Acts, viz., that of Feb., 1729 (tho' by their present Act of 1749 they acknowledge in Effect *that that is not a proper Act)* and they appoint a new P'son to collect the Dutys imposed by the Act of Feb., 1729, in the Place of Mr. Chas. Read, dec^d.

"Should this Act, therefore, of August, 1749, be presented *now* for Approbation, it will certainly and unnecessarily revive the dangerous Question made us aforesaid in December, 1746; and the Board of Trade may also conceive that there has not been so much Candour shewn on this Occasion as has always wont to be shewn on *others*, seeing they were induced to expect as well from what the Assembly themselves did once in 1742, as from what the Proprietors in 1746 said might be again expected from the Assembly; that the Assembly themselves would have repealed and put out of the way all the four old Acts of 1722, & of May & Feb., 1729, & of 1738.

"Which it is most certain the Assembly have *not done*, But which it's hoped the Assembly *will do*, as also will re-enact the Purport of their Bill of 1742 (only amended in the objectable Parts) before this Act of August, 1749, need to be presented; and then indeed it will be no great Matter what comes of this present Bill of August, 1749, as the Purport of this part'lar Bill may be included in such a general Bill to be passed. The Province of Pensilvania and its Assembly have always acted so becoming a Part towards the Crown & its several Boards & offices, & have thereby gained such good Regard and Esteem, as to stand in a very fair Light here; And it is wished that it may be never put in the Power of any P'son to think that they have acted so as to forfeit that Regard & Esteem, which has often been & may be again of great Use & Service to the Province in many of their Affairs."

All in Meeting of the two Castles of the Mohawks: February the 2d 1744/5.
all Hours Johnson Present all the Sachems, & Chief Warriours of both Castles. —

Hendrick spoke & Sayed. —

Brother Warraghiyagey we are come here to acquaint you with what News we have rec.d from the Southward, & also from the Westward. —

As the Five Nations arrived all Philadelphia last fall, they mett the Chawanoose there, and the Schanihaderadoggeroonies who were verry glad to see them, and Welcomed the Five Nations heartily on their Arrivall, and to shew their friendship, and Brotherly love to the Five Nations, presented them with a large Belt of Wampum. —

The Schanihaderadoggeroonies, and Chawanoose on their Meeting the Five Nations att Philadelphia after Welcoming them, told the Five Nations that According to their Promise made to the Governour, & you att Albany last meeting, and also to us, that as they lived so far from us, they would move to a place called Cahaycanna, where they then were, but were still in a moving posture towards the Five Nations, picking up a little of every thing they could get, to help them on their Journey, and that they had got now a prilling large Bundle, meaning of Wampum of their own, which they sent by them to be divided among all the Five Nations, as a certain token of their friendship, and covering to all among them, as soon as possible

They then shewed the Wampum, & Lodged it with me, which was a greater Quantity than ever was before. —

Then Hendrick proceeded to tell me about the French Army which went last Summer to the Westward and spoke

Brother Warraghiyagey, as Hon.ble Celleron the French Commd.r of the Forces (whom we last Summer to disturb the Settlement of Indians at Oniakaga on Belle River, & who are in the British Interest) arrived there with his Forces, the Indians having Notice from you of their coming, were ready to receive them, and Fired a Number of Guns, upon which the Commd.r was Grazed by a Ball. Which discouragement, together with his seeing so great a Number of Men there ready to give him Battle, damped his Spirits so, that he thought proper to go back by, and sent a Message immediately to Canada with the Account of their Numbers, and his reception. At his return he begged to have a Meeting with said Indians, when he told them that he Came purposely on their Account, and to serve them, hearing that the English incroached upon their Lands and were to Build Forts, and Settle Towns. Whereupon their Father meaning the Gov.r of Canada sent him with orders to dispossess the English, & prevent their Coming among them for the future, but not to hurt them. After that was over, and he thought he had Satisfied, or removed their Jealousy, he gave them a large Belt of Wampum with a Strong Invitation to go to Canada to Speak with the Gov.r, and told them they

Should be there all the time the Bark is easily plucked of the Trees, meaning Spring Without fail, and that their Father would receive them with open Arms. The Indians all in a Body made Answer - they would not go to Canada, and so returned his Belt, saying Why should you expect us to Canada? to speak with you, when we have refused Speaking to you the whole Course of the War returned his Belt -

Meeting with no Success Monsr Celleron returned, and by the way enquired of his Interpreters and Indians who were with him, whether they did not know of any Indians in the way who were a friend to the French. they told him of one who formerly Lived in the French Country, but now lived at a place Called Cattaghwagey, who they took to be a friend of theirs, upon which they sent him word to meet them at a certain Pla. Accordingly he met them. upon which the French Commd.r telling him he depended upon him as a friend, and one whom he looked upon as next his heart, desired he would acquaint him with all the News from the Governt of York, the Govern.r of Philadelphia, the Six Nations, and all Indians in their Interest, and what their designs were.

The Indian gave him no Satisfactory Answer, telling him that he knew nothing Extraordinary, but that the Govern.r of Philadelphia, some time ago sent them Ind.s Gifts on Ohio River 12 Barrels of Gun Powder, &c.a for their use.

Mr Celleron on parting gave said Indian and family the strongest Invitation imaginable, to go with him and live at Cadaraqui. the Ind.s asked him for what reason, as he had a better hunting place where he then was. and insisted on knowing his reason for so earnest an Invitation

The Frenchman told him, but charg.d him strictly att the same time not to discover it for several reasons, it was out of a regard for his Safety. that the French Governor was fully determined early in the Spring to distroy all the five Nations. Guiena was Indian present in order to view as he Says, or bind him to secrecy, but in vain. for immediately disclosed all the French Officer said to him, to the Interpreter, who went upon this Account now, and promised they will immediately send them word if they hear any further News of the French designs. And the five Nations expect you will strictly enquire into the designs of the French. as you have more frequent Opportunities, to acquaint them immediately with what you hear Given

at Fort of Niagara

Hendrick's Speech to Colonel Johnson.

[New York Papers, Hh., No. 88.]

At a Meeting of the two Castles of the Mohawks Feby 2^{d} 174$\frac{8}{9}$ at Mount Johnson

PRESENT—All the Sachims & Cheif Warriours of y^{e} Castles

Hendrick spoke & Said

Brother Warraghiyagee

We are come here to acquaint you with what news we have received from the Southward, and also from the Westward

As the five Nations arrived at Philadelphia last Fall, they met the Scha,wan,ooes there, and the Scha,ni,ha,der ad,yghroo,nees who were glad to see them, and welcomed the Five Nations heartily on their arrival, and to shew their Friendship & brotherly love to the five Nations, presented them with a Pack of Skins

The Scha,ni,ha,der,adygh,roon,ees & Schawan, oo, es on their meeting the Five Nations at Philadelphia after welcoming them, told the Five Nations that according to their promise made to the Governor and you at Albany last meeting and also to us, that as they lived too far from us, they would move to a place called Scha,han,do,a,na where they then were but were still in a moving posture towards the five nations, picking up a little of every thing they could get to help them on their journey, and that they had now a pritty large Bundle meaning about two Bushells of Wampum, which they sent by them to be divided among the Six Nations, as a certain token of their Friendship, and coming to settle among them as soon as possible

They then shewed the Wampum & then lodged it with me, which was a greater quantity, than ever I saw before

Then Hendrich proceeded to tell me about the French army which went last summer to the Westward and spoke

Brother Warraghiyagee

As Mons Celleron the French commander of the Forces (who went last Summer to destroy the Settlement of Indians at Cajuhaga on Belle River who are in the British interest) arrived there with his Forces, the Indians having notice of their coming from you, were ready to receive them and fixed a number of Guns upon which the Commandant was grazed by a Ball, which discouragement, together with his seeing so great a number of Men there ready to give him Battle, damped his Spirits so that he thought proper to pass by, and sent a message immediately to Canada with the account of their Numbers & his reception at his return he begged to have a meeting with said Indians, when he told them that he came purposely on their accounts, and to serve them, hearing that the English encroached upon their Lands and were to build Forts and settle Towns. Whereupon their Father meaning the Governor of Canada sent him with orders to dispossess the English and prevent their coming among them for the future but not to hurt them. After that was over and he thought he had satisfied or removed their Jealousies he gave them a large Belt of Wampum, with a strong invitation to go to Canada to speak with the Governor and told them they should be there at the time the Bark is easily plucked off the Trees, meaning Spring, without fail and that their Father would receive them with open arms.

The Indians all in a Body made answer they would not go to Canada and so returned his Belt saying why should you expect us to Canada to speak with you when we have refused speaking to you the whole course of the War—returned his Belt

Meeting with no success Monsr Celleron retired and by the way inquiring of his Interpreter and Indians who were with him, whether they did not know of any Indians in the way who were friends to the French, the told him of one who formerly lived in the Senecas country, but now lived at a place called Cas,cagh,sa,gey who they took to be a friend of theirs upon which they sent him word to meet at a certain place, accordingly he met them, Upon which the French Commandant telling him he depended upon him as a friend, and one whom he looked upon as next his heart and desired he would acquaint him with all the news from the Governor of York the Governor of Philadelphia, the Five Nations and all the Indians in their Interest, and what their designs were

The Indians gave him no satisfactory answer telling him that he knew nothing extraordinary, but that the Governor of Philadelphia, some time ago sent their Indians settled on Ohio River 12 Barrells of Gun Powder &c for their use

Mr Celleron on parting gave said Indiand and family the strongest Invitation imaginable to go with him and live at Ca,da,ragh,que. The Indian asked him for what reason, as he had a better hunting place where he then was and insisted on knowing his reason for so ernest an Invitation

The Frenchman told him but charged him strictly at the same time not to discover it, for several reasons, it was out of regard for his safety. That the French Governor was fully determined early in the Spring to destroy all the five Nations, Giving said Indian a present in order to sew up his lips, or bind him to secresy but in vain, for he immediately disclosed all the French officer said to him to the Sachims, who sent you this account now and promise they will immediately send you word, if the hear any further News of the French designs, And the five Nations expect you will strictly enquire into the designs of the French, as you may have more frequent opportunities and acquaint them immediately with what you hear

Gave a Belt of Wampum

A True Copy
(sg^{d}) G Clinton

thought proper to send an express through the five Nations with a Belt of Wampum to acquaint them of it, and also to those Indians above mention'd desiring them to keep their Warriors home least the French, who are a designing people, should suprise them, as they have threatened them, such precautions are very requisite, as it shows them we are tender over their lives and safety, My opinion is that notwithstanding the stedfastness of them Indians at Ohio, if this government or Pensylvania, which lays more contiguous to them) do not exert themselves so as to counterballance the Favors of the French we shall inevitably forfeit their esteem, which may prove of worse consequence than people are aware of.—I am sir your Excellencys

most humble Servant
(sgd) WM JOHNSON
G. CLINTON

A true Copy

HENDRICK'S SPEECH TO SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON.

At a meeting of the two Castles of the Mohawks Feby 2^{1} 17$\frac{4}{5}$^{8} at Mount Johnson

PRESENT—All the Sachims & Chief Warriours of y^{e} Castles

Hendrick spoke & said

BROTHER WARRAGHIYAGEE: We are come here to acquaint you with what news we have received from the Southward, and also from the Westward.

As the five Nations arrived at Philadelpnia last Fall, they met the Scha,wan,ooes there, and the Scha,ni,ha,der ad,yghroo,nees who were glad to see them, and welcomed the Five Nations heartily on their arrival, and to shew their Friendship & brotherly love to the five Nations, presented them with a Pack of Skins.

The Scha,ni,ha,der,adygh,roon,ees & Schawan,oo,es on their meeting the Five Nations at Philadelphia after welcoming them, told the Five Nations that according to their promise made to the Governor and you at Albany last meeting and also to us, that as they lived too far from us, they would move to a place called Scha,han,do,a,na, were they then were but were still in a moving posture towards the five nations, picking up a little of every thing they could get to help them on their journey, and that they had now a pritty large Bundle meaning about two Bushells of Wampum, which they sent by them to be divided among the Six Nations, as a certain token of their Friendship, and coming to settle among them as soon as possible.

They then shewed the Wampum & then lodged it with me, which was a greater quantity than ever I saw before.

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Meeting with no success Monsr Celleron retired and by the way inquiring of his Interpreter and Indians who were with him, whether they did not know of any Indians in the way who were friends to the French, they told him of one who formerly lived in the Senecas country, but now lived at a place called Cas,cagh,sa.gey who they took to be a friend of theirs upon which they sent him word to meet at a certain place, accordingly he met them, Upon which the French Commandant telling him he depended upon him as a friend, and one whom he looked upon as next his heart and desired he would acquaint him with all the news from the Governor of York the Governor of Philadelphia, the Five Nations and all the Indians in their Interest, and what their designs were

The Indians gave him no satisfactory answer telling him that he knew nothing extraordinary, but that the Governor of Philadelphia, some time ago sent their Indians settled on Ohio River 12 Barrells of Gun Powder &c for their use

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Gave a Belt of Wampum

GOVERNOR CLINTON OF NEW YORK TO THE LORDS OF TRADE.

FORT GEORGE, NEW YORK, 7th *June 1750.*

MY LORDS: Your Lordships will perceive by the inclosed Papers that the Govr of Canada, under feigned artificial pretences keeps the English and Indian Prisoners still in Canada, which I am pursuaded is done with a design to lessen the esteem the five Nations of Indians have of the English Strength and Power in respect to that of the French and to weaken the influence the English have hitherto had on those Indian Nations and others in alliance with us and to withdraw their dependance on us

This proceeding of the Governors continuing to be of a piece, with what I have formerly informed your Lôrdsps by my letters of the 29th may and 24 Septr 1749 confirms my opinion of the designs of the french Governor. It appears to me to be of the greatest consequence to the British Trade, among the numerous nations on the Continent to the Westward of the English Colonies and the safety of those Colonies in case of War with France, effectually to support those nations who joined us in the late War and who (as appears by the copy of Mr Johnsons letter inclosed) are at this time in danger by the French exciting the Indians in alliance with them to make war on them I shall do all in my power on this occasion

Copy of Letter of Gov. to Board of Trade, 1751.

My Lords:

I would have done myself ye Honour to have answered your Lordships' Letter of the 19th Day of July last, something sooner, had I been able to have procured a Map of the Province accurate enough for your Purpose, which is of so much Import to his Majesties Rights. It is from a good Map only that anything can be said with precision & clearness on the several points mentioned in your Lordships' Letter, and I have waited all this time for one, the person on whom I depended to make it being at the time I received your Lordships' commands at a great distance in the uncultivated Parts of the Province. After this apology, by which your Lordships will see the true reason of my not answering with ye required Expedition, I shall furnish you with all the Knowledge I am master of or can procure by the best information in my power.

The Map* describes ye Province of Penn[a], w[ch] is bounded on ye North by the Province of New York and a part of the Lake Ontario, on w[ch], a little to ye North, stands his Majesties Fort of Oswego, tho' this Lake by the French Accounts, is said to be within the Limits of Canada, and as such, used by them. On the West, this Province is bounded by a small part of the said Lake Ontario, the Streights of Niagara, Lake Erie, & ye country now possessed by the Six Nation Indians, Delawares, Mohickens and Shawonese, the greatest Part thereof is watered by the main Body and Branches of the great River Ohio, which runs into the Mississippi at six or seven hundred miles distance South West from this Western Boundary, and at it's mouth is said to be larger and deeper than the Mississippi at that place, and tho' all this Country be within his Majesties Province of Virginia, yet the French have given that part of it which lyes on Ohio the name of Belle Riviere, claiming all the Land from the Mouth of Ohio to its head, together with all the waters running into it, and in proof of their claims have buried Leaden Plates in the Earth, with pompous inscriptions, a copy of one of which, transmitted to me by the Gov[r] of New York,† is herewith sent. On the South this Province is bounded by the Province of Virginia and Maryland, and on the East by the River Delaware, dividing it from the Provinces of New Jersey and New York. It contains three Degrees of Latitude & five Degrees of Longitude, as appears by King Charles the Second's Grant to the late William Penn, Esquire, (which is in the custody of the present Proprietaries or their Sollicitor ready to be produced to your Lordships' whenever you please to call for it) and by the Maps then in being, from whence, those Degrees were taken, they are to be measured at the South Boundary from the Town of Newcastle.

* See p. 47.

† See it in Colonial Records Vol. IV., p. 510.

All the Lands comprised within the Limits of this Province at the time of the first Settlement of New York, by the Dutch, which is generally agreed to be in 1609, did belong to the Five Nations, called by the French, Iroquois, their Cousins, the Delawares, and the Mohickens, And these Nations voluntarily and of their own deliberate choice being independent and free Nations, entered into the alliance first of the Dutch and afterwards of the English, and the New York Records of wch no doubt your Lordships on this occasion will receive exemplification, will shew that the Council of Onondago which with respect to the Union of these Indian Nations is in the nature of a Convention of the State's General repeatedly sued for the Protection of his Majesty, and executed in the most solemn manner, Treaties whereby they acknowledge themselves Brethren, Friends & Subjects of the King of England, & by Deeds as solemnly and deliberately executed, granted their Lands to the Dutch and English as the Country filled & the People wanted Room, and in particular the Deputies of the Five Nations authorised thereto by a Resolve of Council, in one of their Visits to one of the present Proprietors, executed an Engagement not to sell any Lands lying within the Province of Pennsylvania, to any other than to the Proprietors, their Heirs & Successors.

But as there can be no manner of doubt about the Southern or Eastern Parts of the Province, I shall be more particular in my Observations on the Western Parts. The Indians there are very numerous, consisting chiefly of Delawares, Mohickens and such of the Five Nation Indians as have removed from their native Countrys for the sake of hunting, together with the Shawenese and Owendals. The Shawenese in old times lived near the Spaniards and were always at war with them, & having from an uneasiness in their situation signified their desire to remove and live under the protection of the English & Five Nations were by Treaty received into this Province in 1701, & placed on Susquehanah & afterwards wth the Consent of the Government removed to the Waters of the Ohio, some within & others lower down than our Western Limits will extend. As to the Owendaels, their Original Settlement was about Fort De Troit, near the West End of Lake Erie, who, being ill used by the French, voluntarily left them & joined themselves to the Ohio Indians, in order to receive the Benefit of their Protection against the ill Usage of the French. What right the Shawenese in these circumstances may have to the Soil, must be left to be settled between themselves & the Five Nations, but from this time they were admitted to live in this Province. They have been his Majesties faithful allies, & behaved as such without any instance to the contrary, except that some of the Shawenese by the Solicitations and under the Conduct of one Peter Chartier, a freeholder of this Province, deserted to the French at the beginning of the last War, but the major part being sensible of their Error, returned, acknowledged their fault, & were

at the instance of the Ohio Indians pardond & taken again into Favour.

This, therefore, being the Fact that this Country is within the Limits of Virginia, & actually possessed by free & independent Nations of Indians, in the Alliance of the King of Great Britain, may it not be asked by what Title the French can justify their Claims. If it be said by a prior Discovery, Its distance from the Mississippi and the Antiquity of the Royal Grant of Virginia will confuse this pretention. If it be said by the Conquest of the Indians, this is false, in fact. There remains then only one thing more that can give a good Title; Namely, the voluntary cession of the Indians, but this ought not to be allowed, until proof thereof is made on the Part of France, & it is apprehended that no such Cession has ever been made by the Indians; on the contrary, whenever they incline to part with these Lands they are engaged to give the Preference to his Majesties Subjects, it must therefore appear plain to every one that the French claims to these countries are groundless; And yet notwithstanding this, the French have published not only their Right to the Soil of these Countrys, but the Right to an exclusive Trade with these Indians, and give out that they will use force in case the English Traders come into these Countrys to trade with the Natives, & in vindication of this exclusive Right refer to the Treaties subsisting between the crowns of England and France, as appears by three Letters of the same Tenor and Date address'd to me & delivered to the Traders of this Province who were in that Country in the Year 1749, by Monsieur Celeron, a French officer who had then the Command of a Party of French and Indians, sent expressly to chastise the Indians for suffering the English Traders to come amongst them. A copy of one of which is herewith sent. As this Doctrine is entirely new and against the express words of the 15th Article of the Treaty of Utrecht it will be easily confuted, but should it prevail, an End will effectually be put to all the Indian Trade, the value & consequence of which is too well known to be expatiated upon, since the French lay claim to all the Lands about the Lakes as well as those on the waters of the Ohio whose head Springs are in the Country of the Five Nations, and in the Heart of this Province.

As it has been advanced by some that the Apalaccian Mountains would make a good Boundary between the English and French Dominions in North America, care has been taken to lay their Course and Situation in the Map as near the truth as possible. Your Lordships will please to observe the distance between them & the West Boundary of this Province, and to take these further remarks into your consideration, That where these mountains cross this Province they are three or four hundred miles from any part of the Mississippi, and more than seven hundred from it where the Ohio falls into it; That in Virginia People are settled on the West Side of them, & in this Province to the very foot of them; That there is a

very large and fine country, bigger than Pennsylvania, between them & the Mississippi, inhabited by the Five Nation Indians, Mohickons, Delawares, and Shawonese, all free & independent Nations & our good Allies; That these Mountains are likewise at a considerable distance from Lake Erie, which is here mentioned to obviate any Arguments the Ffrench may Use, as if this Country was necessary for them to be possessed of, in order to pass & repass from Louisiana to Canada; and when all these matters come to be duly considered, your Lordships will see plainly that to make these Mountains the Boundary between his Majesty & the French woud be extremely injurious to his Majesties Rights, as thereby a great Part of the Provinces of New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia woud be cut off from his Majesties Dominions, nor can this, tho' an heavy Loss, be compared to the unsafe Condition which the other Parts of them woud be exposed to by the near neighbourhood of the French who woud have it in their Power to harass & distress them at pleasure.

The Indian Interpreter, who lived some years among the Five Nations, and has been frequently employd in Messages to the Council at Onondago, & passed the Apalaccian Mountains on his way to Ohio, assures me that the Situation of these Hills, where they cross this Province, is to the best of his Judgment well and truly laid down in the Map, the same he says of the North & West Parts of the Province & of the principal Indian Towns on the Waters of the Ohio & between them & Lake Erie.

The Eastern and Southern Parts & the Courses of the River Delaware are in a great measure laid down from actual Surveys.

Before I conclude, it will be necessary to inform your Lordships that Monsieur Celeron, the Writer of the French Letter, has since his Ohio Expedition been preferred to the Command of the Garrison at Fort De Troit, situate on the Straights, between Lake Erie and Lake Hurons, & we are assured by repeated Intelligences that he has collected an armed Force, with which he intends in the Spring to march to Ohio against the Indians and our Traders, and to make good the French King's exorbitant Pretensions to the Property of the Soil and an exclusive Trade; he has already declared that he will build two Forts at or near the Place, marked in the map, Logs Town, within this Province, it is, therefore, humbly submitted, whether this should not be guarded against in the most effectual manner, at the Settlement of the Boundary between his Majesty & ye French King in the Treaty that we hear is now in agitation.

Indorsed—" Rough Draught of Lre. to Lords of Trade, 4th Febry, 1750."

at the trouble to send to me I am perswaded that upon a little reflexion your Excellency will recollect that it had been fully consider'd before I left the place as much as it can be now tho' perhaps your Excellency had not so particularly consider'd the Acts which expire

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From John Ayscough

FORT GEORGE January 3d 1749/50

Sr

If you remember I showd you once a Letter from Coll Lydius about some lands that were vacant and as it was discrib'd in such a manner that you could not comprehend it or at least thought it was in Pensylvania Govern^mt. upon which I wrote to him to be more explicit and yesterday I rece'd as follows/ viz/

In answer to yours of 19th October. His Majesty K: Charles 2d by his Letters Patent did give & grant unto William Pen the Elder all that Tract of Land in America on the East of the Delawar River from the beginning of 40th Degree of Northern Latitude to the beginning of the 43 Degree, But if the sd River did not extend so far Northward, then by the sd River so far as it does extend, and from the head of the sd River the Eastern Bounds is to be determined by a meridian Line to be drawn from the head of the sd River into the beginning of the sd 43d Degree. The sd lands to extend westward 5 degrees in Longitude, to be computed from the sd Eastern Bounds: Thus far Pensylvania. As the Meridian Line is to be a division Line from the beginning of the 43d Degree, between the Province of New York, and the vacant Lands, the property whereof is vested in His Majesty.

Now consider that Line to extend to 44th or 45th degree of Northern Latitude & to extend Westerly 5 degrees in Longitude, which will be as far westerly as Pensylvania, so that here it is plain a vacancy of 2 degrees

N & S. and 5 E & W. in which vacancy is now above 150 families settled on the Mohawks River and would take in Oswego & all the South side of the Lake Ontario. This I conceive will give you a true Idea of the affair; so I am S[r]

Yours & c:
JOHN H: LYDIUS

Your opinion on the above when you are at leasure will be acceptable to his Excellency and oblige S[r]
Your very humble Servt
J. AYSCOUGH

To D[r] COLDEN

Extracts from Coll Johnsons Letters enclosed by Gov. Clinton

6th January 1749/50

I recd and Express yesterday from the five Nations, that they had recd several Belts of Wampum from the French Governour, which are to be opened at my house in a general meeting of the Sachems Wednesday next. When I have heard the News shall acquaint your Exellency thereof. The French were never so active among the Indians as at Present, while we must lay still, & only look on, not having power to do anything, which give me leave to assure your Exellency must hurt or weaken our Interest prodigiously as the Indians must soon imagine they are neglected or rather slighted by us.

22 Jany: 1749/50

I must acquaint your Exellency that most of the Indians of both the Mohawks Castles are determined (in a short time) to go to war against the Catawba's, & are to be joined by great Numbers of their Bretheren, as also by several other Nations, I have for some time past kept them from that vile Practice, Notwithstanding the French used all their endeavours to set them on, but as affairs are Circumstanced at present, it is out of my power to attempt it. However I must humbly represent

to your Excellency that the bringing about a Peace between their Indians & ours would be a thing of great importance, & the only way in my humble opinion to effect it would be to get about half a dozen of the Chiefs of that Tribe or Nation to come here, and desire a Peace with the six Nations, which I flatter my self I could persuade them to agree to, the best time would be when your Excellency was here & have it done in your Presence. I hope S^{r} you'll pardon me for making free to give you my Sentiments thereon

WM. JOHNSON

February 9th 1749/50

From Gov. George Clinton

S^{r}

By the above Paragraphs from Coll Johnson's Letters of 6th & 22^{d} ultimo you will see the necessity of doing something immediatly, for fear of loosing the Indians, the subsequent consequence of which, must be their attachment to the French Interest, who you are sensible will leave no opportunity that offers to obtain it; For which reason I desire you will consider the affair minutely, that when you come down, I may write to the Ministry upon this head, to enforce as pressingly as possible, the absolute necessity of retaining them in their alliance, though attended with inevitable Expence.

His Grace of Bedford writes me word that he can not do any thing in the Indian Affairs without laying the case before the Council, Colonel Johnson has given me frequent hints before this, that he can not maintain the Expence of the Indian Affairs any longer, and that he would be glad to drop it entirely, unless upon a certainty of being repay'd, and you must think that it is too much for me to do it out of my own Pockett, and much more so now, when I can have no probable view of being reimbursed by the Assembly what Expences I have been already at. For these & several other reasons (which I shall tell you when I have the pleasure of seeing you here) your Presence & Advice in Council are absolutely necessary, and I must and do desire & insist

that you will come down by the very first Vessel that offers; for I expect Knox will sail at furthest by the 10th or 12th of March; and as the success I have had in the Credit, not only of obtaining the Indians to declare war against our Common Enemy, with almost unsurmountable Difficulties, and the retaining them in our Interest must entirely depend upon a continuance of it. I must have the advice of Council, what may be the proper methods to represent to the Ministry on so important an affair; (And while you are absent) should I propose any ways to acquire it, most of them would be silent, or at least only hum & haw upon it, and imediatly ask why I did not send for you.

In Coll Johnson's Letter of 26th Decembr, he tells me that several Yorkers & others had been canvassing for Members from this Place up to Albany (as they expect a dissolution) and working up the People to their own seditious way of thinking, among them was Robt. Livingston of the Mannor, James Livingston, John Livingston, Nich Bayard Coll. Gosbeck, and Coll Mathews, the last of which much surprizes me having allways taken him to be firmly attached to my Interest, this I thought proper to acquaint you with, that you might be enabled to give me his reasons for so ungratefull usage, when I see you. I wrote to you yesterday & enclosed a letter from Mr. Catherwood, & favours of Mr. Harrison's Friend; I have received a Letter from Mr. Sharpe, who tells me, all things go well, & hopes that er'e this time they are come to a determination in my Favour. I have enclosed a copy of his Letter, & one from the Duke of Bedford, that you may see how matters stand: His Grace's is an answer to mine, sent by Governour Shirley and by Waddel who carryed the Duplicate Oliver and his party have last fryday night riotously attacked the House of a Jew, Broke open the Door & allmost all the Windows useing most scandalous expressions I hear he is comprimiseing the matter, & in short as no justice is to be expected in this place while the distribution is in the hands of his Brother; it would be in vain for the poor people to at-

tempt to procure it, but I hope there will be soon an end put to such insolence. Mr. Catherwood by advice of ye Sharps has presented another memorial to His Grace of Bedford & Lords of Trade relating to that fellows behaviour to me & other matters before them which have been very well received Mr. Sharp was to meet one of ye L^ds^ of Council about it. This was wrote in expectation of an oppertunity of conveyance which did not offer till this 14th to the care of Sheriff Brinkerhoff who is desired to forwerd it with speed. so you will take notice when you receive it. Sollicitor Murry advised Mr. Catherwood not to leave ye Sharps for they are by far ye best hands I could be in for interest with the Ministry Catherwood assures me y^t^ Sr Peter has underhand asked for this Gover^mt^ for himself but was denyed, & says time will expose him to ye world & this sly push of his, has done me no disservice but this is a secret, but I am satisfied with ye person he had ye intelligence from. In one of my letters I receivd from Mr Catherwood of ye 21 Octob which gives an account of Genl Shirly's arrival, with whom he says he had had some conversation & gave him a copy of ye case he has now layd again before ye Ministry which I enclose for ye perusal Mr Shirley has had some conversation with Mr Pelham ab^t^ my situation he assured him of giving me all the assistance in his power but let him understand y^t^ you are represented to him as a very disagreable person to preside in my Gover^mt^ & your enemies here are extreamly industrious y^t^ character & worse it has been hinted as suspected to be a tool to ye C. J. & Sr Peter, under ye colours of assisting me, by exposing ye loss of the Kings authority under my administration only or in all ye Representations you date ye Assembly griping at ye powers of Govern^mt^ from ye time of my arrival but again they say the reason for doing it was to see how you was advisd by ye C. J. in whom I put my Confidence, but I hope these last letters I write in your favour will clear up every thing to your satisfaction & hope all will go well, but I must desir you will come down as soon as possible as it will be absolutely

necessary to carry on ye common cause especiall as Mr Allexander is gone to ye Jerseys to attend ye assembly & not know when he will come back. My complements wait on you & family &c.

S^r^

Your very humble ser^t^

G. CLINTON

To Dr. COLDEN

From James Alexander

NEW YORK Janry 22^d^ 1749/50

Dear Sir

Yours of Dec 20th I have with the return Corrected for which I am obliged to you & shall be ready to pay your fees according to such order as you shall give or to your self when you come down here.

The Several pieces of Evidence you mention concerning the North west line of Evans patent Seem very material, & Should if possible be preserved. The best way of preserving them would be if they were given in Evidence at last tryal, to get some persons who were present at the tryal to recollect & certify that such & such evidences declared so & so in that tryal—the persons certifying may talk with the witnesses to refresh their memories.—the persons certifying aught to have no interest Either way—after they have certified it might be of some use that the certifier do depose before a justice of the peace to the truth of what he certified, and if same young men were present at makeing the Depositions, & Signing under it that they were present & saw that Deposition made it might be of use in case of the death of the certifier for that Deposition cannot be given in Evidence but these persons can swear that they heard the certifier depose so & so which may be admitted

Such of those points as were not given in evidence at last tryal may be preserved by the witnesses makeing oath to them before a justice & getting some young men

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Friday the 8th February, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,	Samuel Hassell,	Esqrs.
Robert Strettell,	Joseph Turner,	
Benjamin Shoemaker,	William Logan,	
Thomas Hopkinson,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The House returned the Bill for Erecting Houses of Correction and Workhouses in the Counties of Lancaster, York, and Cumberland, within this Province, with a Verbal Message That the House having considered the Governor's amendments to that Bill are of opinion that the Bill as it now stands is well suited to the Circumstances of those Counties; that the Governor's amendments will wholly alter the Design thereof, and therefore the House adheres to the Bill. To which the Governor sent them an answer by his Secretary in the words following: That he is sorry he differs in Sentiments from the House with regard to that Bill; but as the amendments by him proposed are the Result of his Judgment, after mature Consideration of the Bill, he cannot therefore recede from them.

And at the same time the following written Message relating to the Bill for regulating the Probate of Wills was likewise delivered by the Secretary to the House.

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"When I sent the last Assembly the Message mentioned in Yours of the fifth Instant, Alto' I saw many Inconveniences attending the Bill for regulating the Probate of wills then before me, yet I was unwilling to refuse my Assent to it without that due Consideration which I shall ever have of Matters coming from the Representatives of the Province of Pennsylvania. I have since considered it with the utmost care, and as the Bill lately sent down to you is essentially the same, I have given you my Reasons why I cannot pass the latter into a Law, and am not capable of saying more upon the Subject.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"February 7, 1750."

The Assembly returned to the Governor the Bill for the better regulating the Nightly Watch within the City of Philadelphia, and for enlightening the Streets, Lanes, and Alleys of the said City,

and for raising Money on the Inhabitants of the said City for defraying the necessary Expences thereof, with the amendments and a Paper setting forth that some of them were agreed to and others not; which Paper was taken into Consideration by the Council and returned by the Governor with the Bill to the House, and a Message that the Governor would pass it as it was then amended, to which the Assembly agreed.

A Bill to encourage the establishing an Hospital for the Relief of the Sick Poor of this Province, and for the Reception and Cure of Lunaticks, was delivered to the Governor in Council for his Concurrence; and after mature Consideration it was unanimously agreed that the Bill be detained till the next Sessions.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Saturday the 9th February, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,	Samuel Hassel,	Esquires.
Robert Strettell,	Joseph Turner,	
Benjamin Shoemaker,	William Logan,	
Thomas Hopkinson,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The following Message was delivered yesterday evening by two Members to the Governor:

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

"May it Please the Governor:

"We have taken into our serious Consideration the Governor's Messages concerning Indian Affairs, with Governor Clinton's Letters and the other Letters and Papers therein referred to, and being fully convinced that these Matters are of such Importance as to deserve our Care and Attention, we have concluded to meet again some weeks before the Time proposed by Governor Clinton for the Treaty with the Indians of the Six Nations at Albany, in order that we may then be more fully informed of the Affairs of the Indians in our Alliance, and may consider what may be fitting for us to do with regard to them, and whether it will be necessary for Us to bear a Part in the said Treaty.

"As the Money voted at our last Sessions for a Present to the Indians at Ohio was soon after laid out in Goods proper for them, We have (in order to expedite their being sent forward as soon as possible) enjoined Conrad Weiser to go over Sasquehannah and agree for their Carriage, and carefully to observe such Directions

as the Governor may be pleased to give him for that Purpose, and the Provincial Treasurer to discharge such Sums as he may contract to pay for the charges of conveying those Goods to Ohio.

"The Regard and Concern expressed by the Governor on this Occasion is very grateful to Us, and engages us fully to confide in his Assurances of performing what we may hereafter request him to do therein for the Interest of the Province.

"Signed by Order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"February 8, 1750."

Then the two Members informed the Governor that the House inclined to adjourn to the sixth of May next, that they have agreed to his amendments of all the Bills which would be engrossed ready for Examination to-morrow morning, and further that he would let the House know his Result on the Hospital Bill; in answer to which his Honour told them that he had no objection to the proposed time of adjournment, that he would appoint two Members of his Council to join a Committee of the House in examining the Bills as this Morning, and that it was impracticable for him to consider the Hospital Bill duly, but he would send his Sentiments thereon to the House at their next Sitting.

"The engrossed Bill having been compared and found to agree, and the Speaker with the House having presented them to the Governor in order that they might be enacted into Laws, his Honour passed the three following acts, viz.:

"An Act for explaining and ascertaining the Boundary Line between the Counties of York and Cumberland, in the Province of Pennsylvania."

"An Act for the more effectual preventing Accidents which may happen by Fire, and for suppressing Idleness, Drunkenness, and other Debaucheries"

"An Act for the better regulating the Nightly watch within the City of Philadelphia, and for enlightening the Streets, Lanes, and Alleys of the said City, and for raising of Money on the Inhabitants of the said City for defraying the necessary Expences thereof."

Then the Speaker presented the Governor with an Order on the Treasurer for Six Hundred Pounds.

MEMORANDUM.

During the course of this Session the Governor had several private Conferences with the Speaker and some of the principal Members of the House on the State of Indian Affairs, and was in hopes that the following Proposal made by the Proprietaries would have induced them to encourage him to order the Persons intrusted with the Delivery of the Present at Ohio to make the Indians some over-

tures of this sort; but the Members appeared extremely averse to it, which obliged the Governor to desire Mr. Croghan to do no more than sound the Indians in a private manner that he might know their Sentiments before he should do any thing further in the matter, well knowing that unless the Assembly would go heartily into the Affair and make some Provision along with the Proprietaries for the maintenance of the Fort or Block-House, and the People to be appointed for this service, it would be to no purpose to stir in it. He, therefore, contented himself with laying before the Assembly the following Extract:

An Extract from the Proprietaries's Letter.

"The Account you give of a Party of French having come to Allegheny and laid claim to that Country and the Tribes of Indians with whom we have lately entered into Treaty, a good deal alarms me; and I hear that Party is returned to Canada threatning to return with a greater Force next year. I have communicated the French Commandant's Letter and Paper, with an account of the Affair, to the Duke of Bedford and Lord Halifax, and I think something shou'd be done immediately, if it can by consent of the Indians, to take Possession. This I think you shou'd advise with the Council and Assembly about, as it is of great Import to the Trade of the Province to have a Settlement there and an House a little more secure than an Indian Cabbin. I make no doubt the Indians would readily consent to such a Settlement; and if there is Stone and Lime in the neighborhood I think an House with thick walls of Stone with small Bastions might be built at no very great Expence, as it is little matter how rough it is within side; or a wall of that sort perhaps fifty feet square, with a small Log House in the middle of it, might perhaps do better. The command of this might be given to the principal Indian Trader, and he be obliged to keep Four or Six Men at it who might serve him in it; and the House be his Magazine for Goods. If something of this sort can be done we shall be willing to be at the expence of four hundred Pounds Currency for the building of it, and of one hundred Pounds a Year for keeping some men with a few Arms and some Powder; this, with what the Assembly might be enduced to give, will in some measure protect the Trade, and be a mark of Possession. However few the Men are they should wear an uniform Dress, that tho' very small it may look Fort like.

Extract of Colo Johnson's

A Meeting of the two Castles of the Mohawks &c. 6th & 7th/50
at Mount Johnson. Present all the Sachems & Chiefs
Warriors of both Castles. 83. 25

Hendrick spoke and said.

Brother Warraghiyagee we are come here to
acquaint you with what News we have received from the
Southward, and also from the Westward.

As the Five Nations arrived at Philadelphia Castle
they met the Delawares there, & the Schanidadyghroones,
whose were glad to see them, & welcomed the Five Nations
heartily on their arrival, & to shew their Friendship, &
Brotherly-Love to the Five Nations presented them with
a large Pack of Skins.

The Schanidadyghroones & Schawanoes on their
meeting the Five Nations at Philadelphia, after welcoming
them, told the Five Nations that according to their Promise
made to the Governour, & you at Albany last meeting &
also to us, that as they lived too far from us, they would
move to a Place called Schaliendoana, where they then
were, but were still in a moving posture towards the Five
Nations, picking up a little of every thing they could get, to
help them on their Journey, and that they had now a
pritty large Bundle comeing about 2 Bushells of Wampum,
which they sent by them to be divided among the six Nations
as a certain token of their Friendship, & comeing to settle
among them as soon as possible.

They then shewed the Wampum & lodged it with one,
which was a greater Quantity than ever I saw before.

Then Hendrick proceeded to tell me about the French
Army, which went last Summer to the Westward, and spoke.

Brother Warraghiyagee As Monsr Celeron the
French Commander of the Forces (who went last Summer

to

to destroy the Settlement of Indians at (Oj)ugaga on Bo[illegible]
- River, who are in the British Interest) arrived there wi[illegible]
his Forces, the Indians having notice of their comeing fro[illegible]
you, were ready to receive them and Fired a Number
of Guns, upon which the Commandant was grazed by a
Ball, which discouragement, together with his seeing
so great a Number of Men there ready to give him
Battle, damped his Spirits so that he thought proper to
pass by, and sent a Message immediatly to Canada
with the Account of their Numbers, & his reception. At
his return he begged to have a Meeting with said
Indians, when he told them that he came purposely
on their Accounts, and to serve them, hearing that the
English encroached upon their Lands, and were to build
Forts & settle Towns. Whereupon their Father meaning
the Governour of Canada sent him with orders to
dispossess the English and prevent their comeing
among them for the Future but not to Kill them.
After that was over and he thought he had
satisfyed or removed their Jealousies he gave them
a large Belt of Wampum with a strong Invitation to
go to Canada to speak with the Governour, and told
them they should be there at the time the Barks
easily plucked of the Trees meaning Spring without
fail and that their Father would receive them
with open Arms. The Indians all in a Body made
Answer they would not go to Canada and so
returned his Belt saying why should you expect
us to Canada, to speak with you, when we have
refused speaking to you on the whole Course of
the War. returned his Belt.

Meeting with no success Mons[r] Celeron returned
and by the way enquireing of his Interpreter and
Indians

Indians who were with him, whether they did not know of any Indians in the way, who were Friends to the French; they told him of one who formerly lived in the Seneca Country but now lived at a place call'd Tes,eagh,sagey, who they took to be a Friend of theirs, upon which they sent him word to meet them at a certain place, accordingly he met them, Upon which the French Commandant telling him he depended upon him as a Friend, and one whom he looked upon as next his Heart, and desired he would acquaint him with all the News from the Governour of York, the Governour of Philadelphia, the Five Nations, and all Indians in their Interest, & what their designs were.

The Indian gave him no satisfactory Answer, telling him that he knew nothing extraordinary, but that the Governour of Philadelphia some time ago sent them Indians settled on Ohio River 12 Barrels of Gun powder &c: for their use.

Mr Celloron on parting gave said Indian and his Family the strongest Invitation imaginable, to go with him and live at Ca,da,zagh,que. The Indian asked him for what reason, as he had a better dwelling place where he then was, & insisted on knowing his reason for so earnest an Invitation.

The Frenchman told him, but charged him strictly at the same time not to discover it, for several reasons, it was out of regard for his safety. That the French Governour was fully determined early in the Spring to destroy all the Five Nations. Giving said Indian a present in order to seal up his lips or bind him to Secrecy but in vain, for he immediatly disclosed all the French Officer said to him to the Sachims, who sent

you

Hendrick the Indian
Saelim's Speech to
Coll. Johnson, Febr.a.
1749/50
about the designs of the
French.

Rec.d with Gov.r Clinton's Lett.r
Dated y.e 19. of March 1749/50.

Rec.d May y.e 25.th 1750.

Read —— 28.th

HH 83.

15.

(2.)

Indian Deed to John H. Lydius.

THIS INDENTURE made the first Day of February in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred & thirty two Between Caregohe Tejonjagarawe Canneragtaharie Egnitee Tewagnidoge Testarrarie Tejase Carogjarageon Ragsotjata Canadagaie and the Cheif Mohawks with their People Living on the Mohawk River a Branch of Hudson's River of the One part, and John Henry Lydius of Albany in the Province of New York Gent^{n} Son of the Revd Mr John Lydius Late Minister of the Word of God in Albany af^{d} of the other Part WITNESSETH that the said Caregohe Tejonijagarawe Canneragtaharie Egnite Tewagnidoge Tetarrarie Tejase Carogjarageon Ragsotjata Canadagaie and with the advice & Consent of their People In Consideration of the said John Lydius his Ten Years Service among them, Instructing them in the Christian faith, And Performing all the offices of a Minister of the Gospel among them As also in Consideration of the Great Pains & Diligence of the s^{d} John Henry Lydius in instructing several of them to Read and Translateing & copying Several of David's Psalme for them His frequent Visits, And many Christian & friendly Offices Performed & to be Performed for them have GIVEN granted Aliened Enfeoffed & Confirmed & by these Presents DO give grant Alien Enfeoff & Confirm unto the said John H. Lydius his Heirs and Assigns for Ever. Two Certain Tracts of Land Lying to the Northward of the English Colonies of New England near the Lake of Champlane viz One Tract Lying On Otter Creek containing about Six Dutch Miles in Width & fifteen in Lenth. And Bounded as follows viz Begining at the Mouth of Otter Creek & thence Running Six Dutch Miles Easterly, From thence Running Southerly to the uppermost Falls of Otter Creek Being about fifteen Dutch Miles as af^{d} be it more or less From thence Westerly Six Dutch Miles And from thence Running Northerly to the first Mentioned Boundarie Being About fifteen Dutch Miles as af^{d} be it more or less; And the Other Tract lying

on Wood Creek and Bounded as follows viz Beginning Two & a half Dutch Miles Due North from the Place Called Cinjequagtenock or Falls in Wood Creek And from thence Running Ten Dutch Miles & a half Westerly to the Falls on Hudsons River goeing to the Lake St Sacrament & from thence down the said Hudsons River five Dutch Miles & from thence Running Easterly five Dutch Miles from thence Running Southerly three Dutch Miles & a half & from thence Running Easterly five Dutch Miles & from thence Running Eight Dutch Miles & a half Northerly to the first Boundarie With all the Parts Members Priviledges & Appurtenances thereof TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the two Tracts & Parcells of Land Beforemention'd with their Appurtenances unto the said John Henry Lydius his Heirs and Assigns for Ever To the Only Proper Use & Behoof of the said John H. Lydius his heirs and Assignes forever and the said Caregohe Tejonijagarawe Canneragtaharie Egnite Tewagnidoge Testerrarie Tejase Carogjarageon Ragsotjata Canadagaje By & with the Advice & Consent of their People for themselves their Heirs Executors Administrators & Assigns & for every of them Do Covenant Promise and Grant to & with the said John H. Lydius his Heirs & Assigns by these Presents in Manner & form following: That is to Say that at & Immediately Before the Sealing & Delivery of this Present Indenture They are the Sole true & Lawfull Owners & Proprietors of the said two Tracts of Land with the Appurtenances, And are Solely Rightfully & Absolutely Seized thereof as of an Absolute Indefeasable Estate of Inheritance in fee Simple & that they have Good Right & Lawfull Authority to Convey the Same as afores^{d} & that the said John Henry Lydius his Heirs & Assigns shall at all times hereafter Quietly & Peaceably Hold & Injoy all the Lands & Premises above Conveyed Takeing all the Issues & Profitts thereof Without Any Lett or Molestation of them the said Caregoha Tejonijagrawe Canneragtaharie Egnite Tewagnidoge Testarrarie Tejase Carogjarageon Ragsotijata Canadagare and their Heirs or Assigns or any Other Person from by or Under them or any of them

Also that the Lands & Premises above Conveyed are & shall Continue free from all Incumbrances Whatsoever Made or Suffered by them or any of them And Lastly that they s[d] Caregoha Tejonijagarawe Canneragtaharie Egnite Tewagnidoge Testarrarie Tejase Carojarageon Ragsotijata & Canadagare and their Heirs shall & will at any time or times hereafter upon the Reasonable Requests of the S[d] John H. Lydius his Heirs or Assigns Make & Execute all such further & Reasonable Assurances & Conveyances in the Law for the Assureing & Confirming of the said Lands & Premises to him or them as he or they by his or their Council Learned in the Law shall Reasonably Devise Advise or Require. IN WITNESS whereof the Said Caregoha Tejonijagarawe Canneragtatjarie Egnite Tewagnidoge Testerrarie Tejase Caragjarageon Ragsotijata Canadagare and With the Advice & Consent of their People Testified by the Covenant Subscriptions & Seals of Many of them Have hereunto annexed their Hands & Seals the Date above written

Was Sign'd Sealed with the Respective Marks & Seals of the said Indians

A True Copy Examined & Compared with the Original this third Day of April 1750

P[r] me

JOHN COLDEN Clerk of the City of Albany.

Seal'd & Delivered In Presence of Barend Vroman Volkert Dow jun[r]

Cadwallader Colden to Major Woolcot.

[Copy]

COLDENGHAME March 6th 1731/2.

S[r]

I often reflect on the Pleasure I had in your Conversation & as often have thought it one of the greatest misfortunes of my Scituation in the Country to be depriv'd of that Correspondence with my Friends which my being at New York would give me It is with much pleasure

(Copy) Fort George 5th April 1750 165

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I received your Letter of 2d of January last, wherein you mention, that most of the Indians of both Nations Castles are determined to go to war with the Catawbas, and are to be joined by great Numbers of their Brethren, as also by several other Nations.

The Catawbas I suppose to be one of the Southern Nations of Indians, who together with the other Nations to the Westward and Southward as far as the River Mississippi, were by the Treaty in the year 1740 received into the Covenant Chain with us, and the six Nations, and although the six Nations seemed at first to insist that none of the Tuskinnes of those Southern Indians should come to Albany, yet they gave up that point & concluded a firm Peace with them as appears by an Extract of this Treaty enclosed, which I would have you represent to them in the strongest Light, and that nothing can be a greater Violation of that Treaty, than their now going to war with the Catawbas who since that Treaty have looked upon them

Coll. Johnson

as

---

themselves and Still do, as Friends to the six
Nations, and in conjunction with the other
Southern Indians united in one common Alliance

If you find nothing will Reclaim them
from this War, but that some of the Southern
Sachims coming to Albany, to desire a Peace
of the Six Nations, I would have you propose
it to them, and let them know, that I will
write to the Governour of Virginia in order
to prevail on those Nations to send some of
their Sachims thither, as soon as conveniently
they can, & that in the meantime the Warriors
of the six Nations be kept at Home, & not
suffered to go a fighting against the Cattawbas
or any other Southern Indians, I am

Your very Loving Friend & Servant.

G: Clinton.

Govern.r Hamilton's Ins.
dated the 25th March
Rec.d 21 April 1750
Read in Council
the 22 May 1750

Sir

I have the honour of your Letter of the twenty fifth of March, inclosing the Copy of One from Coll. Johnson, and an Account of Presents paid at his Conference with the Indians of the five Mohawk Castles in February last, for which I am very much obliged to you.

I doubt not but the bad reception M.r Celeron met with last Summer from the Twichtwees, Wayondotts, and other Indian Nations seated at Ohio must have occasiond a high resentment in the Governor of Canada, and will produce the strongest efforts on his part to recover his influence over those Nations, and to secure to the French the trade of those Parts. But when I consider the strength of those Indians, and the Unanimity of their Resolutions not to return under the Yoke of the French, I am in hopes the Governor of Canada will think it too much to attempt to reduce them by force: But in Case He should persist in making that Attempt, I know nothing in my Power to do, that can prevent it.

Those Indians have had repeated Assurances from this Government that nothing shall be wanting on Our Part to testify the Friendship We have for them, which has been confirmd to them by very large Presents from Us. By the last Accounts from thence, they appear very sensible of the Advantages of a Trade with the English in Preference to the French, And they told M.r Celeron in plain Terms, that they were an independent People, had a Right to trade with whom they pleasd, and would not be hindred from doing so, by the French King, or any of his Subjects. Now Sir, What more can be done by Us at this time than has been already done? I transmitted last fall to the Proprietors of Pennsylva-

nia

a Duplicate of Mr Clevens letter to me, and fully inform them of that whole Transaction, and of the exorbitancy of the French Claims; and there is no Room to doubt, but they will have laid the same before his Majesty's Ministers, and that some Measures will be directed to be taken thereupon, which I expect to receive by the first Ships.

A Person belonging to this Province, of a very good Character and well known to Me, who has been trading all the Winter with the Indians at Chio is expected to be at his Own House either this or the next Week, and he will there find a Letter lodged by me, directing him to send me immediately a particular Account of the Sum and Dispositions of those Indians: when this comes to my Hands, I imagine it will bring much fresher information than is that you have received, and if I find it contains any thing worthy of your Notice, I shall not fail to communicate it as soon as possible, and shall be proud of acting in concert with your Excellency on all occasions, but more especially in an Affair, in which, the Welfare of the Provinces more our Care is so nearly concerned.

I am with all possible Regard

Sr Your Excellencys most obedient and most humble Servant

Phila. April 11. 1750 — James Hamilton

His Excellency Gov. Thos Fitch Esq.

and in which we cannot possibly be any Gainers, having already the Bulk of that Trade in our Hands, but may risque the loosing some Part of it. Upon the whole it appears to me to lye between the two Situations of Le Torts Spring and the Bigg Spring, the particulars of which I have before given. Your Honour may depend upon the Truth of the Plan.

Upon fixing the Spot some Directions will be necessary for a Plan of the Town, the Breadth of the Streets, the Lots to be reserved and those to be allotted for the publick Buildings, &c.

In the Execution of which or any other Service for the Hon'ble Proprietaries com'itted to me, I shall take great Pleasure.

I am

Hon^{d} S^{r},

Y^{r} most obed^{t}

h'ble Servt,

THO. COOKSON.

To his Honour the Governor.

Lancaster, 1st March, 1749.

Indorsed,

Copy M^{r}. Cookson's Letter to the Governor about a proper Situation for the County Town of Cumberland, 1st March, 1749.

Conrad Weiser to Gov. Hamilton, 1750.

Lancaster, May the 4, 1750.

Sir:

I was favoured with yours of the 28 Aprill last, by M^{r}. John Laurence, with the inclosed packet of the Governor of New York to the Governor of Pensilvania, with the dispatches of that Great man Waraghiyagee to his Governor, and as I am desired to give my thoughts about it to his Honour, the Governer, I shall not trouble you with enlarging in this. You may Easely Call to mind what I allways said to you about the Administration in Indian affair of our neighbours; this is a prooff thereof. You tell me, Sir, that you was Surprized that there was not one Word in My letter relating to the new purchas. I hope you did not Expect that I Should Consult any thing about with the Son of Skickelimy, which would have ben wrong, but If it was because no answer arrived from the Six Nations to the Belt of Wampum the Governor gave them last Sumer, I am Equally Surprized, but am apt to think that the Council of the Six nations was but Summone^{d} this Spring, because I heard that most of the Indians that have been down with us last Sumer, Stay'd all Winter upon the heads of Susquehanna to Hunt, as it was Hunting time before they past Shomokin. I Belief it to be true, but I

Still Expect a Messenger from Onondago this Sumer with an answer to the said Belt.

As to what belongs to my Survey at Mokomay I am well pleased with your answer, and am obliged to you for your good will and affection.

Mr. Croghan Came home but last Monday night and rested but one day, and so Came down to Lancaster. Andrew Montour came down with him from Ohio to his house, (I mean to Mr. Croghan's house) and did Intent to go to Philadelphia Some time next week, and is Wanting my Company, but as I Expecting you up, I told Mr. Croghan to stop Andrew till you Came, which would be on the 15 of this Instant to John Harrises. In your last you desire me not to mention it to any Body that you was a Coming up, but, Sir, in yours of last week, on this Subject you did not say so, and therefore I made no particular privacy of it, allthough I don't know whether I told any Body of It till I Came to Lancaster, before I received your last as to what Concerns Mr. Croghan & Andrew Montour, you will receive Information of Mr. Croghan himself.

In Some of my last letters you was Informed of Reading affairs, and that we got Water at 52 or 3 feet. I hope you will Come that way, and be at my house on Saturday night, the 12 of this Instant, and I will make as Well Come as I Can, and make you Governor of my place as long as you will please to Stay with us.

I Can not help Mentioning to you, that I positively Belief that Warraghiyage Squanders a great deal of money in a year, which the public must pay, and I am Satisfied he has not wit Enough to know the Indians thoroughly, but I hope he does not fall short of Honesty. I have nothing to trouble you further with till I shall have the pleasure to see you. I remain,

Sir,
your well known
Servant,
CONRAD WEISER.

Directed.
To Richard Peters, Esquire, Secretary,
at Philadelphia.

Indorsed.
Mr. Weiser's Lre of 4 May, 1750.

barracks for this detachment, and a store for the provisions. Were no garrison at that post, a considerable foreign trade would be carried on there.

7th 9ber, 1749. Subsequent to these letters Mr de la Jonquière has written another, in which he states that Mr de Longueuil had informed him that a party of Indians, supposed to be Mohawks, had attacked Sieur Picquet's mission, on the twenty-sixth of October last; that Sieur de Vassan, commandant at Fort Frontenac, had sent a detachment thither, which was unable to save two vessels loaded with hay, and the stockades of the fort from being burnt. Abbé Picquet's house alone was saved.

The loss by this fire is considerable. It would have been greater were it not for four Abenakis, who on this occasion gave a proof of their fidelity.

The man named Perdreaux had half of his hand carried away. His arm had to be cut off.

One of the Abenakis received a gun shot; the ball remained in his blanket.

Mr de Longueuil has provided everything necessary. Mr de la Jonquière gave him orders to dispatch a detachment of ten soldiers thither, and will take measures, next spring, to secure that post.

Mr de la Jonquière adds, that the Indians were instigated to this attack by the English. The Iroquois, who were on a complimentary visit at Montreal, were surprised at the occurrence, and assured Mr de Longueuil that it could only be Colonel Amson[1] who could have induced them to make the attack.

He omitted nothing to persuade these same Iroquois to undertake that expedition, and to prevent them going to pay their respects to the Governor, having presented them with Belts, which they refused to accept.

Conference of M. de la Jonquière with the Cayugas.

Propositions of the Cayugas to the Marquis de la Jonquière, Governor and Lieutenant-General for the King throughout New France, the territories and countries of Louisiana, and that General's answers to said propositions, 15th May, 1750.

By a Belt.

Father, On your arrival in this country, the Five Nations resolved to request you to accept the same name that Mr de la Galissonnière bore; we called him, "Peace." He took great care of all the Nations, and often spoke good things to us. Father, We hope you will be equally good to us; we shall always follow your advice and do our best to obey your pleasure; you know the conduct I have observed, I beg you to speak to us from the bottom of your heart, as we do to you. People often speak to us one way and think another; were only one child of the Cayuga Nation left, he will be always faithful to you. We beg of you to labor like us only in doing good.

[1] *Sic.* Johnson. — Ed.

By another Belt.

Father, It appears that you wish all the Indians who are on the Beautiful river to withdraw; you know that is a Republic composed of all sorts of Nations, and even many of those who lived near you have settled there. It is a country abounding in game, and this it is that attracts them thither. This island belongs to the Red Man (*Nations noires*); it is the Master of Life who has placed them on it, for he hath located those who are White on the other side of the Sea.

Father, You cannot easily get back all your Frenchmen who are dispersed throughout the entire country, each seeking to obtain a living; how do you suppose it possible to get back our young men? you know there exists no subordination among us.

Take pity on us when you send to those parts; think only of doing good, as you have hitherto done. As for me, I assure you, I shall labor always so to do, however embarrassed I may be, for often I know not whom to believe. You tell me to distrust the English; the English say the same to me of you; and this has led me to remain neutral during the War, in order to see who absolutely was wishing for my destruction. Father, be assured of my fidelity, and I shall not cease to occupy myself with what is good.

By three Strings.

You know we abandoned with pleasure our wives, our children and our country; that the sole desire of seeing you has been the motive of our remaining during the winter; but in the course of that time attempts have constantly been made to disturb our minds, by telling us that our Father, who is gone to France, had a bad heart and was conspiring our destruction; doubtless your sentiments are the same. If you desire to know those who talked to us in this way, we shall name them to you, for I, Cayuga, fear nothing and have nothing to reproach myself with. We are even threatened that, if any come hither from that country, he will be transported; and, if any do not come, people will go and kill them at home.

Propositions of the Cayugas which are to remain in the Secretary's office, in order to show them the Belt in case of need. 27th of May, 1750.

Father, You see your children, the Cayugas, who are on the point of leaving, and who thank you for all the good advice you have given them. Had it not been for you there would, perhaps, be no more mention of the Five Nations. We see clearly that the English seek only our destruction, and are grasping all the lands we inhabit. We are already in their midst.

Here is a Belt which we present you, whereby we assure you of our fidelity. It is our heart we leave in your hands; we will support each other and shall never cease being attached to you. Nothing will be capable of separating us. I, Cayuga, will never take up the hatchet against you, no matter what war may be declared. Should it happen that some of our young men stay from their duty, and do wrong, we beg you to allow us time to confer with you; this we shall also do on our side; this is the only way to live in peace; were there but one Cayuga chief remaining, he will be always loyal to you. The Master of Life disposes of us and we know not who will live the longest: Wherefore, Father, we are very glad that Messrs de Longueuil, Varin and Noyan are present, so that he who will live the longest, may be able to repeat what we have just said to those who will succeed them. Should anything occur in our cantons deserving your attention, we shall communicate it to you. We hope that you will not forgetus.

Whatever turn matters may take, even should war exist, come, Father, in all safety to your children, the Cayugas. You will be always well received by them.

Your son, Joncaire, here present, knows us all; he knows the bottom of our hearts.

Should any one trouble us, we will have recourse to you; the ancients have lighted a Council fire here, and planted a tree of peace, at the foot of which we deposit this Belt, which remains as a pledge of our promise, so that it may be near us when any one will desire to see it again.

Answer of the General.

By a Belt.

Children, I receive with pleasure the name you gave my predecessor, which signifies "Peace." I shall take very great care of all my children, and particularly of you, Cayugas, who have been the most faithful to me during the war. Continue in your present good sentiments, if you follow my councils and do my will, you will find a good Father, who will receive and always solace you with pleasure. I shall not cease to converse with you in terms of friendship, persuaded, as I am, that you will pay every attention thereto. It will be always with an open heart that I shall speak to you. I entertain no doubt of the fidelity you promise me, as you must also be persuaded of the sincere attachment I shall always feel towards you.

By a Belt.

Children, It is not my intention to make all the Indians withdraw that are on the Beautiful river; I merely wish that all those who have abandoned their families and villages should return and join them.

If you find what you want in this country I am glad; but you would not regard me as a true father, were I not to remark to you that the English are settling there, notwithstanding you have forbad them; be careful to give good advice to those who are on the Beautiful river, so that they may be wiser in future, and not take charge of bad Belts to give to their brethren, my children.

If the Master of Life wished, at the beginning of the world, that none but Red men should inhabit this continent, it was only to give them to understand how pleasant it is to be near a good Father, and he has willed that Ontiogoa (that is the King) should send some of his subjects hither to comfort you, and to engage you to acknowledge him as your good Father.

The French, who will go to the Beautiful river, will carry wherewith to supply the wants of those who are there, and will be careful not to disturb them. I send your son, Sieur de Joncaire, thither; I know that you love him, and have great confidence in him. I hope the French, who will go to those parts, will meet a kind reception; you ought to use your efforts to that end. I doubt not the assurance you again give me to labor only to do good. You know that I have never given you any but good advice; the English, on the contrary, have never ceased persecuting you during the war, even with threats, to make you accept their hatchet, which would only hasten your destruction. This is what they greatly desired, and dare not undertake.

By three Strings.

I am very sensible of the attention you pay me, and doubt not the pleasure you feel at seeing me, for which I am very grateful; the bad talk you heard during your winter encampment must not make any impression on your minds, and therefore you ought not pay

any attention to it. Mr de la Galissonnière and I do not desire your destruction; on the contrary, children, I seek only to comfort you. Mr de Celoron has been at the Beautiful river only to make those return who had gone astray, and to give sense to those who had lost it; you know this.

Those who will come here will be always welcome, and will have every reason to be satisfied with the reception I shall give them; you will afford me pleasure by inducing them to come.

Give me the names of those persons who told you that if your Nation came here, I would send them off, so that I may reprimand and chastise them, if they be Frenchmen.

Answer of the General to the Belt of the Cayugas.

By a Belt.

Children, I am very glad to see you depart contented; you ought never have doubted that the good advice I have continually given you aims only at the preservation of the Five Nations, whom I have always loved. It is for you to preserve yourselves in the country you inhabit, and to take care not to become the slaves of the English.

I receive, with much pleasure, the Belt you give me, whereby you promise me to be faithful; I also receive your heart, and shall take very great care to preserve it; children, persevere in the good sentiments in which I now behold you.

I accept your offers of service, and you must be persuaded that if you require mine, it will afford [me] pleasure [to tender it].

I doubt not the repugnance you felt, and ought always to entertain, at taking up the hatchet against a Father who so tenderly cherishes you, and to whom you are under so many obligations. I hope that you others, chiefs, will be so particular in speaking to the young men that they will never commit any ill act.

I am delighted that Messrs de Longueuil, Varin and Noyan are present and witnesses of the promises you make me.

You will afford me pleasure by reporting to me whatever will occur in your Cantons and in those of your neighbors.

Children, I shall ever go in all security to your country, and you must never entertain any fear when you come hither; which I invite you to do.

I know that Sieur de Joncaire is acquainted with your heart; he has given me an account of it.

I shall be always ready to assist you and to preserve your villages; especially yours, Cayugas, who have been ever faithful to me, and with whom I have never been at war.

I shall preserve, with very great pleasure, the Belt you present me, and which you deposit at the foot of this Tree of Peace. By this one I give you my heart; you will understand how good and sincere it is, and how well you ought to preserve it. In whatever circumstances affairs may be, never be afraid to come and see your Father, who is continually reaching out his hands to you and who will always receive you with tenderness.

Children, I recommend you not to listen to the bad advice that may be offered to you.

We, Pierre Rigaud, Marquis de Vaudreuil, Commander of the Royal and Military Order of St. Louis, Governor and Lieutenant-General for the King throughout New France and the territories and countries of Louisiana.

Certify that the present copy is conformable to the original on file in our Secretary's Office. In testimony whereof, we have signed these presents, and have caused the seal of our Arms to be affixed to, and our Secretary to countersign, the same.

Done at Montreal, the 15th of February, 1758.

(Signed), VAUDREUIL.

By my Lord: (Signed), SAINT SAUVEUR.

M. de la Jonquière to M. de Rouillé.

Quebec, 16th July, 1750.

My Lord,

Previous to receiving the letter you did me the honor to write me on the 5th of March last (accompanied by an order of the King for the exchange of the prisoners respectively belonging to this government for those of New England), I adopted all the measures imaginable to effect their liberation. I proceed to render you an account thereof.

The deputation of Sieurs de Beauharnois[1] and L'Anniers[2] to the Governors of Boston and New-York having accomplished nothing, especially towards the recovery of the 26 Abenakis, who were taken at the beginning of the war; and the Abenakis of St. Francis renewing their entreaties for the restoration of their brethren, I determined on dispatching the said Sieur de Beaubassin to New England, and gave him orders to do his best to speak to the said Abenakis and to bring them back with him. I wrote to those Governors and strongly urged them to facilitate the exchange of our people for theirs.

Sieur de Beaubassin has not yet returned, but I had the consolation to learn that my trouble and pains had some success by seeing all the said Abenakis arrive. Nothing could be compared to the satisfaction this afforded the entire Abenakis Nation. They are our most faithful allies, and will never forget what I have done for them.

Sieur de Beaubassin's arrival is apparently delayed only by the arrangements the English Governors adopt in consequence of the orders of the King, their master, to collect again together all our prisoners and give them up to him. I expect his return immediately.

On my part, my Lord, I have executed the King's order in every particular.

The very moment I received it, I sent for Mr Stoddert, the English officer, who had been deputed to me on the part of the Governor of New-York, and who had remained in this city to await the effect the Sieur de Beaubassin's new mission may produce. I communicated to him said order and notified him that I was going to carry it out; that all the English in my hands would be at once surrendered to him, and that as regarded those detained among the Indians, I would dispatch the Interpreter of these Nations, and issue orders to the commandants and missionaries to do everything in their power to have them given up.

Mr Stoddert and Mr Van Schaick, who speaks the language of the Indians and their prisoners, set out with said Interpreter and assisted at all the conferences held with said Indians. They

[1] *Sic.* Beaubassin. See fourth line further on.

[2] *Sic.* Ligneris. — ED.

Beg[illegible] the Northern
Point of [illegible]
between [illegible] & the
[illegible] abt a certain
small Creek, 12 Miles
in length, 4 Miles
in Breadth
with the Rivers Lyes
from Pistol 4 Leg &c.

& in the name of our most gracious Sovereign Lord George the Second, by the grace of God, of Great Britain France and Ireland King, Defender of the faith: a certain tract of vacant land. Situate, lying & being, on the South Side of the Mohawks River, Between Schoharie and Cherry Valley, along a certain Small Creek containing nine miles in length, & four miles in breadth. To have and to hold, the Said Bargained premises, to him the Said Rev. John Christopher Hartwick his heirs &c. [illegible] their own proper use & behoofs forever. And we the Said Henry Peterson, Abraham Pieterson, Johannis, & Nicholas, our Successors Ex.rs Adm.rs & Assigns, and Every of us; the Said Bargained premises, to the Said Rev.d John Christopher Hartwick his Ex.rs [illegible] Shall & will Warrant, acquit, and forever Defend, by these presents. In Testimony whereof we have hereunto Set our hands & Usual marks this twenty third Day of may In the 26 year of his Majestys Reign and in the Year of our Lord God one Thousand Seven hundred and fifty

Signed and Delivered
In the presence of
Peter D. Schuyler
John Lockerd

Henry his Peterson mark
Abraham his Pieterson mark
Johannis his Son for the Bear
Nicholas his for the turtle
for the Wolf

need any Illustration; we therefore perswade ourselves of his hearty Assistance in the Reformation desired, as the best and most effectual Means to render the Inhabitants of this Province more generally better Subjects, better Members of Society, and above all, better Christians.

Signed by Order of the House
John Kinsey. Speaker.

The Governor was pleased to say, "That it very well became the Assembly, as Representatives "of the People, to endeavour the Reformation of the Abuses complained of; that it was his own Opinion "too great a Number of Publick-Houses might have the Tendency mentiond; and that therefore "he would in the warmest Manner recommend to all the Magistrates a prudent Use of their Power "in this Particular, as well as in every other." And thereupon he wrote the following Letter to the Magistrates of the several Counties to be read in open Sessions.

Gentlemen,

It having been represented to me that the Number of Inns and Publick ... Houses throughout this Province is of late greatly increased; and that many of the Persons ... recommended to me for my Licence to keep the same, are neither of a sober Conversation, nor of .. Ability to entertain Travellers in a proper Manner. Contrary to the Intention of the Laws in that respect provided, and tending to the Propagation of Idleness and Immorality among the .... Inhabitants, which Representation I have taken into serious Consideration; And being desirous, as far as in me lies, to remove every Obstacle in the Way to Virtue, Piety, and good Order; I do in the warmest Manner recommend to You, that you will use your utmost Vigilance; that the Laws relating to the good Order to be observd in Publick Houses, may be duly put in Execution: And that upon all future Applications, you will make a careful Inquiry into the Characters and Circumstances of the Appliers, and recommend to me, so many only, as shall be thought necessary for the Publick Service; and who for their Discretion and Abilities are most ... likely to answer the good Meaning and Intention of establishing Inns and Publick .... Houses in all well regulated Communities.

I am
Gentlemen
Your humble Servant
James Hamilton.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Friday 25th May 1750.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor
Thomas Lawrence
Samuel Hasell
Abraham Taylor
Benjamin Shoemaker
William Logan
} Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approvd.

The Governor laid before the Board a Letter he had receivd the 23d Instant from the Governor of New York, inclosing One from from Coll. Johnson to that Government setting forth the ..... Apprehensions the Indians of the Six Nations were under, as well on their own Account, as in .... Behalf of their Friends and Allies settled at Ohio, from the Threats of the French of Canada, who they say are actually preparing to attack them this Summer with a great Force of French Men and Indians in their Dependance, and desiring to know what Assistance they may rely on from the Government of New York in Case it should so happen. Which Letter of Coll. Johnson, Governor Clinton says he transmits to the Governor of this Province, that He may take such Measures thereupon as He shall judge Proper.

The Governor likewise informd the Board, that Mr Peters the Secretary, and Mr Weiser

the

the Indian Interpreter were then in Cumberland County, in order to take proper Measures with the ... Magistrates to remove the Seitlers over the Hills, who had presumd to stay there, notwithstanding his Proclamation prohibiting their Stay under the severest Penalties. That he had receivd a Letter from Mr Peters, mentioning that Andrew Montour was just arrivd from Allegheny, and brought News that the Indians were upon their Guard least the French should come, but did not generally believe they would: and likewise inclosing the Minutes of some Conferences, which were held by him in Conjunction with the Magistrates and Mr Weiser, as well with Mr Montour as with some Shamokin and ... Conestogoe Indians, which were read in these Words.

At a Conference held with the Indians at Mr Croghan's in Pennsboro' Township Cumberland County on Thursday the 17th Day of May 1750.

Present

Richard Peters Esquire Secretary

Conrad Weiser
James Galbreath
George Croghan
George Stevenson } Esquires
Wilium Wilson
Hermanus Ulrichs

Andrew Montour
Tach nech dôarus
Sai-uch-tô-wano
Catara-dîrtha
Tohomadij Huntho a Mohoch from Ohio.

Sai-uch-tô-wano spoke as follows

Brethren

We were in hopes of giving the Secretary a chearful Welcome into this Part of the Country, but We have just heard a Piece of bad News which has interrupted our Joy, that one of the Principal Men of the Province is taken away by a sudden Death, a wise Counsellor, and a good Friend of ours. Be pleased therefore to convey to the Governor our Expressions of Sorrow on this melancholy Occasion, and let this String of Wampum serve to comfort his Heart, and wipe away Tears from his Eyes, till this great Loss shall be supplyd by some fit Person to succeed him.

A String of Wampum.

To which the Secretary made Answer

Brethren

I will deliver your String to the Governor, with your Expressions of Sorrow for the ... Death of the Chief Justice. This is indeed a real Cause of Concern to the whole Province, since the Loss which the Publick sustains by the Death of Wise Men cannot be soon repaird. Wisdom in the Administration of the Affairs of Government, requiring Experience as well as great Abilities; of both which the deceased Gentleman had a large Share.

Then Catara-dîrtha, on Behalf of the Conestogoe Indians spoke

Brother

When the Six Nations sold their Land on Sasquehannah, to the Proprietaries, the ... Conestogoe Indians were then living in their Town near Lancaster, for which Reason the Place where they lived was excepted out of the Sale. It will appear by your Records, that they were to live there as long as they pleased, and when they should incline to depart, they were to signify it to the Proprietaries, and receive a Consideration; they are now inclinable to remove nearer to the other Indians, and according to the Agreement already made with the Proprietaries, they request You to inform the Governor of their Intention. They want to sell their Improvements, and now make the Proprietaries the first Offer of them.

A String of Wampum.

Brother the Governor

Many of our old People are dead, so that we are now left (as it were) Orphans in a destitute Condition, which inclines us to leave our old Habitations. When we are gone, ill-minded People may tell you Stories to our Prejudice, but we assure You that ...

Distance

Pennsylvania 1750.

Distance will not alter our Affections for You; therefore give no Ear to such Stories, as we on our Part will not think you can loose your Regard for Us, tho' there are some who would perswade Us, that we are now not so much regarded by you as we have been.

Then Andrew montour spoke as follows

Brethren,

The Twightwees who were admitted into the Alliance of the English, in a Treaty held at Lancaster two or three years ago, sent their Deputies to Allegheny last Winter, with a Message addressed to the Six nations, and other Indians living at Ohio, and to the Governor of Pennsylvania, and delivered to them this String of Wampum; and as this Government is equally concerned with those Indians in the Twightwee Message, they have commissioned me to relate it to the Governor, and to give him over the String of Wampum sent with it, and desire he will favour them with his Answer to it by Mr Croghan, who is going this Summer to Allegheny.

The Message delivered by the Deputies of the Twightwees was as follows

Brethren of the Six Nations and all the other Indians living on Ohio and the Governor of Pennsylvania, and all the English Governors.

We the Twightwees who are now one with You, desire that the Road which has lately been opened between us, being a new one, and therefore rough, blind, and not well cleard, may now be made plain, and that every thing which may hinder the Passage, may be removed out of it so effectually as not to leave the least Obstruction; and we desire this may be done, not only as far as where you live, but beyond you to the Places where our Brethren the English live, that their Traders, whom we desire to see amongst us, and to deal with Us for the future, may travel to us securely and with Ease.

Brethren,

We are yet young and unexperienced. You the Six Nations are our Elder Brothers, and can advise Us what to do on all Occasions; We therefore put ourselves under your Care, and request that you will look upon us as Children, and assist us with your Council, and we promise to follow whatever Advice you give Us, for we are sensible that it will be for our Good. Our Father Onontio has kept us poor and blind, but thro' your Means, We begin to open our Eyes, and to see Things at a great ..... Distance. We assure You by this String of Wampum, that We the Twightwees have entirely laid Onontio aside, and will no more be governed by his Advice, nor any longer hearken to what he shall say.

This is our settled Determination, and We give you the strongest Assurances that We shall abide by it and of this we desire you will inform the Six Nation Indians at Onondago, and all the Indians who are in their and your Alliance, and likewise the Governor of Pennsylvania and the other English Governors.

Brethren

I have it further in Charge to relate to You the Answer which the Allegheny Indians gave to this Message of the Twightwees, and it was to this Purpose.

Brethren the Twightwees.

Hearken to what We say, and consider our Answer, as the joint Answer of all the ..... Nations of the Indians living in these Parts, of our Fathers the Six Nations living at Onondago, and of the English Governors, all whom we include in this Answer.

Brethren of the Twightwee Nation

"You have by your Deputies desired of Us, that We would .... open the New Road between Us and You wider, and take out of it every Thing that can possibly hinder our travelling safely and pleasantly to one another, and that the English Traders may come more .... amongst You - And further that you henceforth put yourselves under our Care, and desire we will

assist

"assist you with our Council, and that you have entirely laid aside Onontio, and will be no more governed "by his Councils."- We declare ourselves well pleased with every Part of your Message, and will heartily join with You in making the Road perfectly clear, and free from all Impediments- We will take you under our Care, and assist You on all Occasions in the best Manner; We trust your Determinations are made with the utmost Seriousness and Deliberation, and that you will adhere to what you say- The English and We are firmly united together- We are all one People, and our Hands joind, so that nothing can separate them- You have joined Hands with them and Us, 'tis true, but Yours are as yet like the Hands of Infants, they cannot take hold of the Chain of Friendship with so much Strength as those of riper Years, but We advise You to take as strong an Hold of it as ever you can, and to form an Union that nothing can break through- If any Tree should fall, and block up the Road between Us, be sure let us all put our Hands to it, and unitedly and amicably like Brethren, throw it out of the Road- Don't let us act single on any Occasion, but altogether; and then shall we have the more Strength.

A Message arrive from the Twightwees just before I left Allegheny, to thank the Indians on Ohio for their kind Reception of and Answer to their Message in the Winter, with further Assurances, that they would continue true to their new Engagements, and expected to see Mr Croghan with the Answer of the Governor of Pennsylvania, and the other English Governors.

Brethren

I have finished what was given me in Charge with respect to the Twightwees, but I have still something to communicate to the Governor of Pennsylvania, and all the other Governors on the Continent, which was communicated to me by the Onondaces (otherwise called the Sonontady-Haga) Indians in Conjunction with the other Indians settled on Ohio, be pleased therefore to receive a Message sent by the Onondaces and the other Indians.

Brethren all the English Governors,

When you were at War with Onontio, We were perswaded by Corlear to strike the French, you have since made Peace with Onontio, and we expected that we were included in that Treaty, but we don't find it so; for the French are always threatning Us, and have put Us into so much Fear by their menaces, that We dare not suffer our People to go into the Hunting-Places at a Distance from Us, least we should meet a Party of French- This was the case all last Summer, and we have received Intelligence from the Six Nations, that the French of Canada are now making Military Preparations, and intend to attack Us this Summer.

Brethren,

You ought to have included Us in your Peace, but since you did not, We now request that the English Governors would jointly apply to have Us included in the Peace, that we may not be subject to the Intimidations and Resentment of the French, but be in Quiet as well as You.

The Secretary then informed the Indians, that the Magistrates were come together; to go and remove the People off the Land at Juniata and other Places, by Direction from the Governor, agreeable to the Promise his Honour made the Deputies of the Six Nations last Summer, and that Mr Weiser and he were appointed to see this Work effectually done.

At a Conference held at Mr Croghan's in the Afternoon of the same Day, at the Instance of the Indians.

Present

Richard Peters	Esquires	Andrew Montour
Conrad Weiser		Tach nech doârus
James Galbreath		Sai-uch-to-wano
George Croghan		Catara-dirha
George Stevenson		Tohomady Huntpo

Sai-uch-to-wano spoke as follows

Brethren

62.

Pennsylvania 1750.

Brethren.

We have thought a great deal of what you imparted to us, that Ye were come to turn the People off who are settled over the Hills; We are pleased to see you on this Occasion, and as the Council of Onondagas has this Affair exceedingly at Heart, and it was particularly recommended to us by the Deputies of the Six Nations, when they parted from us last Summer; We desire to ... accompany You. But We are afraid, notwithstanding the Care of the Governor, that this may prove like many former Attempts; the People will be put off now, and come next Year again, and if so, the Six Nations will no longer bear it, but do themselves Justice. To prevent this therefore, when you shall have turned the People off. We recommend it to the Governor, to place two or three ..... Faithful Persons over the Mountains, who may be agreeable to him and us, with Commissions impowering them immediately to remove every one, who shall presume after this to settle there, untill the Six Nations shall agree to make Sale of their Lands. To enforce this they gave a String of Wampum, and received one in Return from the Magistrates, with the Strongest Assurances that they would do their Duty.

The Governor then desired the Gentlemen of the Council, to take the above several Matters into their serious Consideration, and advise him what might be proper for him to do on this Occasion. Who were unanimously of Opinion, That as this Government is as strictly united with the Indians of the Six Nations and those of Ohio, as any other Government on the Continent, and has upon all Occasions acted as friendly a Part by them, it is most probable, that if they had apprehended such imminent Danger as is mentioned in Colo Johnson's Letter, they would as naturally have applyed to this Province for Assistance as to that of New York. That as well by Mr Peters's Information, as by the Testimony of the Indian Traders come from Ohio, it appears matter of Doubt to themselves, whether they shall be molested this Summer. That as this Province is circumstanced, the only Assistance that can be given them, is by furnishing them with Guns, Powder, Lead &c to fight their Enemies, the Expence whereof, they are apprehensive the Assembly may scruple to repay, without receiving some stronger Evidence of the Necessity of its being advanced, than Colo Johnson's Letter to the Governor of another Province. That upon the Whole they cannot advise the Governor either to advance his Money, or to call the Assembly together on this Occasion, but to wait untill He receive a more authentick Application from the Indians themselves, than has hitherto been made to him.

Memorandum The following Persons were appointed Justices of the Peace and of the Common Pleas in the County of Cumberland by a Commission bearing Date the Tenth Day of March 1749 viz Samuel Smith, William Maxwell, George Croghan, Robert Dunning, Mathew Dill, Benjamin Chambers, William Trent, William Allison, Hermanus Alricks, John Miller, Robert Chambers, John Finley and Thomas Wilson.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Tuesday 3d July 1750.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor

Thomas Lawrence, Samuel Hasell, Robert Strettell, Joseph Turner, Thomas Hopkinson, Richard Peters — Esquires

Conrad Weiser, Indian Interpreter.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor laid before the Board a Message from the Chiefs of the Four Nations of the Twightwees, which was spoke to Mr Hugh Crawford Indian Trader, in one of the Twightwee Towns on the Owabach, where he was trading last Winter, and which he put down in Writing Mr Crawford added, that though he was ordered to deliver it to the Governor of Pennsylvania, and the Traders of that Province only were mentioned, yet the Message was to all his majesties Governors, and the Invitation to the Traders of all the English Provinces.

Government, and the Consequences it might have in this we think too evident to a Gentlemen of the Governor's Abilities to need any Illustration; we, therefore, perswade ourselves of his hearty Assistance in the Reformation desired, as the best and most effectual Means to render the Inhabitants of this Province more generally better Subjects, better Members of Society, and above all better Christians.

"Signed by Order of the House,

"JOHN KINSEY, Speaker."

The Governor was pleased to say "That it very well became the Assembly, as Representatives of the People, to endeavour the Reformation of the Abuses complain'd of; that it was his own opinion too great a number of Publick Houses might have the Tendency mention'd, and that, therefore, he would in the warmest Manner recommend to all the Magistrates a prudent Use of their Power in this Particular as well as in every other;" And thereupon he wrote the following Letter to the Magistrates of the several Counties, to be read in open Sessions:

"Gentlemen—

"It having been represented to me that the Number of Inns and Publick Houses throughout this Province is of late greatly increased, and that many of the Persons recommended to me for my Licence to keep the same are neither of a sober Conversation or of Ability to entertain Travellers in a proper Manner—Contrary to the Intention of the Laws in that respect provided, and tending to the Propagation of Idleness and Immorality among the Inhabitants—which Representation I have taken into serious Consideration, And being desirous, as far as in me lies, to remove every Obstacle in the Way to Virtue, Piety, and good Order, I do in the warmest Manner recommend to You that you will use your utmost Vigilance that the Laws relating to the good Order to be observ'd in Publick Houses may be duly put in Execution, And that upon all future Applications you will make a careful Inquiry into the Characters and Circumstances of the Appliers, and recommend to me so many only as shall be thought necessary for the Publick Service, and who for their Discretion and Abilities are most likely to answer the good Meaning and Intention of establishing Inns and Publick Houses in all well-regulated Communities.

"I am, Gentlemen, Your humble Servant,

"JAMES HAMILTON."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Friday, 25th May, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Benjamin Shoemaker, Samuel Hassell, William Logan, Abraham Taylor, } Esqrs.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approv'd.

The Governor laid before the Board a Letter he had receiv'd the 23d Instant from the Governor of New York, inclosing One from Coll. Johnson to that Government, setting forth the Apprehensions the Indians of the Six Nations were under, as well on their own Account as in Behalf of their Friends and Allies settled at Ohio, from the Threats of the French of Canada, who they say are actually preparing to attack them this Summer with a great Force of French Men and Indians in their Dependance, and desiring to know what Assistance they may rely on from the Government of New York in Case it should so happen; Which Letter of Coll. Johnson Governor Clinton says he transmits to the Governor of this Province, that He may take such Measures thereupon as He shall judge Proper.

The Governor likewise inform'd the Board that Mr. Peters, the Secretary, and Mr. Weiser, the Indian Interpreter, were then in Cumberland County, in order to take proper Measures with the Magistrates to remove the Settlers over the Hills who had presum'd to stay there, notwithstanding his Proclamation prohibiting their Stay under the severest Penalties; That he had receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Peters, mentioning that Andrew Montour was just arriv'd from Allegheny, and brought News that the Indians were upon their Guard least the French should come, but did not generally believe they would; and likewise inclosing the Minutes of some Conferences which were held by him in Conjunction with the Magistrates and Mr. Weiser, as well with Mr Montour as with some Shamokin and Conestogoe Indians, which were read in these Words:

"At a Conference held with the Indians at Mr. Croghan's in Pennsboro' Township, Cumberland County, on Thursday, the 17th Day of May, 1750.

"PRESENT:

"RICHARD PETERS, Esquire, Secretary.

"Conrad Weiser, "James Galbreath "George Croghan, "George Stevenson, "William Wilson, "Hermanus Alricks, } Esquires.

Andrew Montour, Tach-nech-doarus, S-ai-uch-to-wano, Catara-dirha, Tohomady Huntho, a Mohoch from Ohio.

"Sai-uch-to-wano spoke as follows:

"'Brethren:

"'We were in hopes of giving the Secretary a chearful Welcome into this Part of the Country; but We have just heard a Piece of bad News which has interrupted our Joy, that one of the Principal men of the Province is taken away by a sudden Death, a wise Counsellor and a good Friend of ours. Be pleased, therefore, to convey to the Governor our Expressions of Sorrow on this melancholy Occasion, and let this String of Wampum serve to comfort his Heart and wipe away Tears from his Eyes till this great Loss shall be supply'd by some fit Person to succeed him.'

"A String of Wampum.

"To which the Secretary made answer:

"'Brethren:

"'I will deliver your String to the Governor, with your Expressions of Sorrow for the Death of the Chief Justice. This is indeed a real Cause of Concern to the whole Province, since the Loss which the Publick sustains by the Death of Wise Men cannot be soon repair'd. Wisdom in the Administration of the Affairs of Government requiring Experience as well as great Abilities, of both which the deceased Gentleman had a large Share.'

"Then Catara-dirha, on behalf of the Conestogoe Indians, spoke:

"'Brethren:

"'When the Six Nations sold their Land on Sasquehannah to the Proprietaries, the Conestogoe Indians were then living in their Town near Lancaster, for which Reason the Place where they liv'd was excepted out of the Sale. It will appear by your Records that they were to live there as long as they pleased, and when they should incline to depart they were to signify it to the Proprietaries and receive a Consideration; they are now inclinable to remove nearer to the other Indians, and according to the Agreement already made with the Proprietaries they request You to inform the Governor of their Intention. They want to sell their Improvements, and now make the Proprietaries the first Offer of them.'

"A String of Wampum.

"'Brother, the Governor:

"'Many of our old People are dead, so that we are now left as it were Orphan's in a destitute Condition, which inclines us to leave our old Habitations. When we are gone ill-minded People may tell you Stories to our Prejudice; but we assure You that Distance will not alter our Affections for You. Therefore give no Ear to such Stories, as we on our Part will not think you can loose your Regard for Us, tho' there are some who would perswade Us that we are now not so much regarded by you as we have been.'

"Then Andrew Montour spoke as follows:

"'Brethren:

"'The *Twightwees*, who were admitted into the Alliance of the English in a Treaty held at Lancaster two or three Years ago, sent their Deputies to Allegheny last Winter with a Message addressed to the Six Nations and other Indians living at Ohio, and to the Governor of Pennsylvania, and delivered to them this String of Wampum; and as this Government is equally concerned with those Indians in the Twightwee Message, they have commissioned me to relate it to the Governor, and to give him over the String of Wampum sent with it, and desire he will favour them with his answer to it by Mr. Croghan, who is going this Summer to Allegheny.'

"The Message delivered by the Deputies of the Twightwees was as follows:

"'Brethren of the Six Nations and all the other Indians living on Ohio, and the Governor of Pennsylvania and all the English Governors:

"'We, the Twightwees, who are now one with You, desire that the Road which has lately been opened between us, being a new one, and, therefore, rough, blind, and not well clear'd, may now be made plain, and that every thing which may hinder the Passage may be removed out of it so effectually as not to leave the least Obstruction; and we desire this may be done, not only as far as where you live but beyond you to the Places where our Brethren the English live, that their Traders, whom we desire to see amongst us and to deal with Us for the future, may travel to us securely and with Ease.

"'Brethren:

"'We are yet young and unexperienced. You, the Six Nations, are our Elder Brothers, and can advise Us what to do on all occasions. We, therefore, put ourselves under your Care, and request that you will look upon us as Children and assist us with your Council, and we promise to follow whatever Advice you give Us, for we are sensible that it will be for our Good. Our Father Onontio has kept us poor and blind; but thro' your Means we begin to open our Eyes and to see Things at a great Distance. We assure You by this String of Wampum that We, the Twightwees, have entirely laid Onontio aside and will no more be governed by his Advice, nor any longer hearken to what he shall say.

"'This is our settled Determination, and We give you the strongest Assurances that We shall abide by it, and of this we desire you will inform the Six Nation Indians at Onondago, and all the Indians who are in their and your Alliance, and likewise the Governor of Pennsylvania and the other English Governors.

"'Brethren:

"'I have it further in charge to relate to you the Answer which

the Allegheny Indians gave to this Message of the Twightwees, and it was to this Purpose:

"'Brethren the Twightwees:

"'Hearken to what we say, and consider our answer as the joint Answer of all the Nations of the Indians living in these Parts, of our Fathers the Six Nations living at Onondago, and of the English Governors, all whom we include in this answer.

"'Brethren of the Twightwee Nation:

"'You have by your Deputies desired of Us that we would open the New Road between Us and You wider, and take out of it every Thing that can possibly hinder our travelling safely and pleasantly to one another, and that the English Traders may come more amongst You. And further, that you henceforth put yourselves under our Care and desire we will assist you with our Council, and that you have entirely laid aside Onontio and will be no more governed by his Councils. We declare ourselves well pleased with every Part of your Message, and will heartily join with you in making the Road perfectly clear and free from all Impediments. We will take you under our Care and assist You on all occasions in the best manner. We trust your Determinations are made with the utmost Seriousness and Deliberation, and that you will adhere to what you say. The English and We are firmly united together; We are all one People, and our Hands join'd so that nothing can separate them. You have joined Hands with them and Us 'tis true, but Yours are as yet like the Hands of Infants, they cannot take hold of the Chain of Friendship with as much Strength as those of riper Years, but We advise you to take as strong an Hold of it as ever you can, and to form an Union that nothing can break through. If any Tree should fall and block up the Road between us, be sure let us all put our Hands to it and unitedly and amicably like Brethren throw it out of the Road. Don't let us act single on any Occasion, but all together, and then shall we have the more Strength.

"'A Message arriv'd from the Twightwees just before I left Allegheny, to thank the Indians on Ohio for their kind Reception of and answer to their Message in the Winter, with further assurances that they would continue true to their new Engagements, and expected to see Mr. Croghan with the answer of the Governor of Pennsylvania and the other English Governors.

"'Brethren:

"'I have finish'd what was given me in Charge with respect to the Twightwees, but I have still something to communicate to the Governor of Pennsylvania, and all the other Governors on the Continent, which was communicated to me by the Owendaets (otherwise called Inontady Haga) Indians in Conjunction with the other Indians settled on Ohio, be pleased therefore to receive a Message sent by the Owendaets and the other Indians.

"'Brethren all the English Governors:

"'When you were at war with Onontio We were perswaded by Corlear to strike the French; you have since made Peace with Onontio, and we expected that we were included in that Treaty, but we don't find it so, for the French are always threatning Us, and have put us into so much Fear by their Menaces that we dare not suffer our People to go into the Hunting Places at a Distance from Us least we should meet a party of French. This was the case all last Summer, and we have received Intelligence from the Six Nations that the French of Canada are now making Military Preparations and intend to attack us this Summer.

"'Brethren:

"'You ought to have included Us in you Peace, but since you did not we now request that the English Governors would jointly apply to have Us included in the Peace, that we may not be subject to the Intimidations and Resentment of the French, but be in quiet as well as you.'"

"The Secretary then informed the Indians that the Magistrates were come together to go and remove the People off the Land at Juniata and other Places by Direction from the Governor, agreeable to the Promise his Honour made the Deputies of the Six Nations last Summer, and that Mr. Weiser and he were appointed to see this work effectually done."

—

"At a Conference held at Mr. CROGHAN'S in the Afternoon of the same Day, at the Instance of the Indians.

"PRESENT:

"Richard Peters,		Andrew Montour,
"Conrad Weiser,		Tach-nech-doarus,
"James Galbreath,	Esquires.	Sai-uch-to-wano,
"George Groghan,		Catara-dirha,
"George Stevenson.		Tohomady Huntho.

"Sai-uch-to-wano spoke as follows:

"'Brethren:

"'We have thought a great deal of what you imparted to Us, that Ye were come to turn the People off who are settled over the Hills. We are pleased to see you on this Occasion, and as the Council of Onondago has this Affair exceedingly at Heart, and it was particularly recommended to Us by the Deputies of the Six Nations when they parted from us last Summer, We desire to accompany You, But We are afraid, nothwithstanding the Care of the Governor, that this may prove like many former Attempts, the People will be put off now and come next year again, and if so the Six Nations will no longer bear it but do themselves Justice. To

prevent this, therefore, when you shall have turned the People off We recommend it to the Governor to place two or three Faithful Persons over the Mountains who may be agreeable to him and Us, with Commissions impowering them immediately to remove every one who shall presume after this to settle there, until the Six Nations shall agree to make Sale of their Lands. To enforce this they gave a String of Wampum and received one in Return from the Magistrates, with the Strongest Assurances that they would do their duty.'"

The Governor then desired the Gentlemen of the Council to take the above several matters into their serious Consideration, and advise him what might be proper for him to do on this Occasion, Who were unanimously of Opinion, That as this Governm^{t} is as strictly united with the Indians of the Six Nations and those of Ohio, as any other Government on the Continent, and has upon all Occasions acted as friendly a Part by them, it is most probable that if they had apprehended such imminent Danger as is mentioned in Col^{o} Johnson's Letter, they would as naturally have applyed to this Province for Assistance as to that of New York; That as well by Mr. Peters' Information as by the Testimony of the Indian Traders come from Ohio, it appears Matter of Doubt to themselves whether they shall be molested this Summer; That as this Province is circumstanc'd the Only Assistance that can be given them is by furnishing them with Guns, Powder, Lead, &$^{ca.}$ to fight their Enemies, the Expence whereof they are apprehensive the Assembly may Scruple to repay without receiving some stronger Evidence of the Necessity of its being advanc'd than Col^{o} Johnson's Letter to the Governor of Another Province; That upon the Whole they cannot advise the Governor either to advance his money or to call the Assembly together on this Occasion, but to wait until He receive a more authentick Application from the Indians themselves than has hitherto been made to him.

MEMORANDUM.

The following Persons were appointed Justices of the Peace and of the Common Pleas in the County of Cumberland, by a Commission bearing Date the Tenth Day of March, 1749, vizt: Samuel Smith, William Maxwell, George Croghan, Robert Dunning, Mathew Dill, Benjamin Chambers, William Trent, William Allison, Hermanus Alricks, John Miller, Robert Chambers, John Finley, and Thomas Wilson.

Extract of a Letter from Thomas Lee Esq.r President of the Council and Commander in Chief of His Majestys Colony of Virginia, to the Board of Trade, Dated at Williamsburg May 11.th 1750.

COLONIAL OFFICE

I had Intelligence that the Six Nations with some French Indians were forming a Design to extirpate the Catawbas a Nation on the West of Carolina in Amity with Us, and under His Majestys Protection, a very warlike People and affectionate to His Majestys Subjects; as usual in such Cases, I sent them Notice of it. The Messenger heard it from these Indians as he informed me at his Return, that the French were projecting to move one thousand Familys of these Indians, to settle on the New River, a Branch of the Mississippi, West of our Mountains, a Part of the Kings Purchase from the Six Nations at the Treaty of Lancaster in 1744, and in consequence large

Grants

Grants are made on it, and many of the
King's Subjects are settled there, so if this
Project be put in Execution, it will of course
disturb the Peace of this Colony. To prevent
this Evil, as I am to make a Present to the
Indians of the Six Nations, as well as
those Tribes on the Ohio, and to save as
much to the Crown, as is possible, I think
to take that Opportunity to claim the
Assistance of the Indians to confirm the
King's Right to those Lands, as a Purchase
from them, which I believe they will not
refuse, and they can do this without any
Disturbance whatsoever, as they have a
great Influence on all the neighbouring
Indians. This will not admit of Delay or
I should not move in it without a particular
Order. As the Cause, I have the 10th
Instruction will justify me to your Lordships.

RECEIVED
COLONIAL
OFFICE

Extract of a letter from
Col. Lee's Commissioners
Chief of the Virginia Indians
Brought by Capt. Adair
May 11. 1750.

Read before the Lords of Trade
20 June 1750

Mr Thompson

1750 June 20

Read

subject to the dominion of Great Britain. But as there is mention made of other *Americans, Allies of Great Britain, and of Americans, subjects or friends of France*, without naming them, it is as clear as daylight that the Commissioners are only to determine about these last.

You have now, Sir, my reasons for acting as I have done, and of which I have given an account to the Court at the same time that I represented the affair of Niagara. I expect every day a complete answer upon both these points; and I think myself obliged, notwithstanding all the reasons which Mr de la Chassaigne has given me, to maintain the post of Oswego till I receive new orders from the King my master.

You may, Sir, make such complaints hereupon as you will judge proper, as you inform me that you have already made some, and at the same time you will not think it strange that on my part I inform the Court in what manner you have summoned the King's officer posted at Oswego, without waiting for any explanation from me upon it; this is a step which the King my master may perhaps be offended at, and which his most Christian Majesty may, perhaps, think fit to disown. I am very sorry to find myself under a necessity to have sentiments so opposite to yours. I should be glad to see all these differences end in a good understanding, and that you would honor me with your friendship; and it is with a great deal of respect that I have the honor to be, etc., etc.,

Signed, BURNET.

Compared with the original on paper lying in the Secretary's Office of the Castle of Saint Louis, of Quebec, by the undersigned, Royal Notary resident in the Prevoté of Quebec, this tenth day of August, one thousand seven hundred and fifty.

DULAURENT.

Francis Bigot.....etc.

French Summons of Fort Oswego.

Copy of the Summons served, in the name of the Marquis de Beauharnois, Governor-general of Canada, by M. Begon, Major of the Town and Castle of Quebec, on the Commandant of the Fort built by the English at the mouth of the River Choueguen, on the shore of Lake Ontario, to withdraw with the garrison of said Fort.

And, next, of the Minute drawn up by said Sieur Begon of the delivery of said summons.

The Marquis de Beauharnois, appointed by his Most Christian Majesty to the general government of all New France, being informed of your Governor's proceeding at the mouth of the River Choueguen, where he hath caused a stone house to be erected on the borders of Lake Ontario, where the French alone have been trading, and of which they have been in possession a very considerable time, and being unable to regard such proceeding otherwise than as a manifest infraction of the Treaty of Utrecht, by which it is laid down that the subjects of the two Crowns shall not encroach the one on the other so long as the boundaries have not been agreed upon by the Commissioners whom the two Crowns are to send for that

purpose, has given me orders to summon you in his name to withdraw, within 15 days at farthest, the garrison you have here, with all the arms, ammunition and other effects belonging to private individuals of Orange or other places; to demolish the house you have had erected contrary to all law, leaving you at liberty to settle, if you think proper, at Lake Thechirogué or the Oneida river, where you formerly carried on Trade; and to leave the mouth of this river, as it has always been free to the French. In default whereof, the said Marquis de Beauharnois will proceed against you, and against your unjust usurpation, as to him shall seem good.

Montreal, the 14th of July, 1727. Signed, Begon.

Here followeth Copy of the Minute of the delivery of the aforesaid Summons.

We, the undersigned, Knight of the Military Order of Saint Louis, Major of the Town, Castle and government of Quebec, in execution of the orders to us given by the Marquis de Beauharnois, the King's Governor and Lieutenant-general over the whole of New France, being arrived, this day, the first of August, 1727, before the Fort built by the English at the mouth of the River Choueguen, on the border of Lake Ontario, have sent to notify Mr Bancker[1] commanding the garrison, of our arrival, and have signified to him, at the same time, that we were come on behalf of the Governor-general, Commander-in-chief of all New France, to summon him to withdraw, within fifteen days at farthest, the garrison of said Fort, with the arms, ammunition, and other effects belonging to private citizens of Orange and other places, and to demolish said Fort and other works he hath constructed there. He sent to invite us on shore, and came, accompanied by two officers of the garrison, to meet us on the beach of said River Choueguen; conducted us into the Fort with much politeness, and after serving the summons, in due form, on said Commander, and handing him the same, written in French and English, he answered us, that he was on his own territory and in his own house; that he had been sent thither by his general government to build said Fort thereupon, with the consent of and valid agreement with the Six Nations; that, if we desired it, he would assemble the Chiefs of the 'Nontagué Indians, who were then on the spot, who would tell us the same thing. This we refused to permit, not wishing to have any discussion with them. After which he added, that he was, like us, a subordinate officer, and consequently equally obliged to obey the orders of his General; that we had an order, in writing, from the Marquis de Beauharnois; that he required the same from Mr Burnet, his General, to enable him to give his answer. Whereupon, we demanded his refusal in writing. But having given us to understand that they required a little time for reflection, and would, if we pleased, permit us to walk wherever we liked, and having made us wait about three-quarters of an hour, and consulted with his officers, he persisted in his first sentiments, and said he had the same right to summon the Commandant of Niagara. Finally, he would transmit the summons to his Governor-general, promising to return an answer so soon as he should have received his orders.

Done at Choueguen, the 1st of August, 1727.

(Signed) Begon.

[1] See note 1, V., 797. A new commission was issued to Evert Bancker, 7th March, 1727, appointing him captain and commander of all his Majesty's Christian subjects in the country of the Five Nations, and commissary at Oswego, in virtue of the provincial act, entitled "An Act for regulating and securing the Indian Trade to the Westward of Albany," &c. *Book of Commissions*, III., 277. — Ed.

Compared with the original on paper remaining in the Secretary's office of the Castle of Saint Louis, of Quebec, by the undersigned, Royal Notary, resident in the Prevoté of Quebec, this 25th of July, 1750.

DU LAURENT.

Francis Bigot.

Previous to this summons M. de Beauharnois had written to the Governor-general of New-York. [*Supra*, p. 969.]

Speech of some Iroquòis to Chevalier Begon, on his way to Oswego.

Ile aux Galots,[1] July, 1727.

Father: We have had a meeting to consider your intended voyage to Choueguen, and are come to communicate our resolution, in order that you may acquaint us with your opinion thereupon.

We are sufficiently acquainted with the insolence of the English to apprehend that they will not receive you with that urbanity which ought to exist between two Nations that are engaged in any negotiation. Some of them may so speak as to make you depart again from our country in ill humor; We therefore request you to allow us to address them the first on our arrival at Chouëguen, and this is what we propose to say to them:

"Brothers: Here is our father, Onontio, who is about to treat with you respecting an affair which regards not only you but us also, since it is on our land the house in question is built. You appear to me on both sides so full of jealousy, the one against the other, that I have reason to believe you are inclined to come to blows. I therefore interpose myself between you to put a stop to the impetuosity of your ill temper; and for you, Brother Englishman, I recommend you not to rely on numbers, to listen quietly to what may be said to you and to answer it in like manner. Reflect, and remember that you are on soil of which we are the masters."

Meanwhile, Mr Begon having summoned the place before they had spoken, they were obliged to deliver, instead of the above, the following speech:

"Englishman and Brother: We are very glad that nothing but mild words have passed between you; we could not but feel great astonishment that land which does not belong to you should cause you so much trouble. You say I have sold it to you, and I on my side insist, that I have only loaned it to you; do not, then, consider yourself there in any other light, and never give any cause for its being stained with blood."

We were not present at this speech; they repeated it to us only briefly a little before we started from Choueguen, requesting M. Begon to communicate their sentiments to their father.

[1] In the town of Henderson, Jefferson county, N. Y. — ED.

When this post shall be permanently established, that of Choueguen can be authorized. Meanwhile, it would be well to require the Plan and Estimate, and to recommend the adoption of the most precise measures to prevent the English forming an Establishment there.

These posts will secure to the French the Trade of the Upper Country, and keep the Iroquois Nations in check.

Approved.

Answer to the Memoir of his Britannic Majesty. 1727.

The French having rebuilt the trading-house — the fort, if you will — which they have had during several years at the Falls of Niagara, on the River of Canada, the Governor of New-York immediately complained thereof to the Court of England, representing this act on the part of the French as an attack on, and infraction of, the Treaty of Utrecht, which binds the subjects of the two Crowns not to molest the Indians, subjects or allies of the two nations. The Iroquois, 'tis said, are subjects of his Britannic Majesty, their lands belong to the Domain of Great Britain, the fort which the French have rebuilt is on these lands; therefore the French could not build it without contravening the Treaty of Utrecht. Such is the state of the question, and the foundation of the complaints of England.

The Court of France has been so much the more surprised at a complaint so ill founded, inasmuch as it has been for seven or eight years protesting against attacks much more real, on the part of the English, who, abusing the peace, and the attention paid by the French, up to the present time, to preserve good correspondence between both Nations, violate the most formal articles of the Treaty of Utrecht, set up chimerical pretensions, and, under pretence of putting themselves in possession of what the Treaty of Utrecht allows them, really usurp lands which belong manifestly to the French, and to the Indians their allies, and pending that same peace, commit hostilities, and do us more injury than they were ever able to commit during all the time that the war continued.

Already regarding, in virtue of vain pretensions, all the country between New England and Acadia as forming part of that same Acadia, or Nova Scotia, have they built Fort Saint George on French soil, and divers other forts beyond, on lands belonging to the Abenaquis, our allies; carried off by surprise, and treated as enemies, some Indians and a French officer; massacred Father Rale, set a price on the head of the Missionaries, destroyed the Mission of Narautsouk, fired and profaned the Church belonging to that Mission, captured two French ships in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, built forts on the Islands in front of Canceaux, notwithstanding all the islands in or appertaing to the Gulf are, by an express article of the Treaty of Utrecht, adjudged to belong to the French; treated with contempt the French whom the Governor-general of Canada had sent to Boston, to complain thereof; and, in fine, cease not to send Belts, secretly, to the Upper Nations of Indians, to induce them to attack the French, and to compromise themselves thereby.

Admit, for a moment, the truth of the assertion that the French had built Fort Niagara on territory indisputably English, and that the complaint of the latter in this regard is just and legitimate, have we not a right to say to them:

You were the first to commence hostilities; you have been the first to violate the Treaty of Utrecht; you have erected forts on territory belonging to us and to our Indian allies; you have waged a cruel war against those Indians, our ancient allies, whom we could regard as our subjects with as much reason as you assert the Iroquois to be yours, and even with more justice. Begin, then, by razing those forts; cease to molest our Indians, repair the evil and the damage you have committed, and then we will attend to your complaint respecting Fort Niagara, if it be well founded.

Thus, I say, could we answer the English, supposing things were equal, and their complaints as legitimate as ours; but such is far from being the case, and I flatter myself I shall demonstrate that all their pretensions are ill founded, and that it is France alone that is wronged, and justly entitled to complain.

Justice of the Complaint of France against the encroachments of the English on the territory of the Abenaquis, its Allies.

The English pretend that, in virtue of the treaty of Utrecht, which cedes to them Acadia, or Nova Scotia, all the territory they have usurped forms part of Acadia, and forcibly usurp more than one hundred leagues of country, notwithstanding that the article of the Treaty of Utrecht cedes to them only Acadia comprehended within its ancient limits. This, as has been demonstrated by divers Memoirs presented to the Court, and as all ancient Maps and Relations verify, includes, under that name, the triangular Peninsula only. All the forts which the English have built are without this Peninsula; therefore, ... etc.....

The right claimed by the English, at the Peace of Utrecht, was founded on a Grant made by James the first, King of Great Britain, to Sir Alexander, of that same Acadia, which he called Nova Scotia. By virtue of this very grant, the English ought to be nonsuited, for the Preamble to that very Instrument sets forth that King James granted the territory only on the supposition that it was not occupied by any Christian Prince, and 'tis unquestionable that it was then in possession of the French, who were expelled therefrom by Sir Alexander the following year, although France and England were then in profound peace; the French, shortly after, drove off the people Sir Alexander[1] had left there, and have ever since constantly occupied it. Be that as it may, it was ceded to the French at the Treaty of Utrecht.

[1] William Alexander, a younger son of Alexander Alexander, proprietor of the estate of Monstrie, in Clackmannanshire, Scotland, was born in the year 1580. Having received a liberal education, he was selected as traveling companion to the Duke of Argyle. On his return from foreign parts he lived for some time a retired life in Scotland, and published his Aurora, a poetical complaint on the unsuccessful addresses he had made to a lady, who declining the honor of his hand, had, as he expressed it, "matched her morning to one in the evening of his days;" not long after this he married Janet, daughter and heiress of Sir William Erskine, and removed to the Court of James the Sixth, when he published a tragedy on the story of Darius, and two poems, one congratulating his Majesty on his entry into England, the other on the inundation of Dover, where the King used to recreate himself with the diversion of hawking. In 1607, his dramatic performances, entitled the Monarchical Tragedies, were published, containing besides Darius, just mentioned, Crœsus, the Alexandræan, and Julius Cæsar; he was also the author of a poem called Doomsday, and several other pieces, and it is said His Majesty used to call him his philosophical poet. In 1613, he was appointed one of the gentleman ushers of the presence, to Prince Charles, and master of the requests, and received the honor of knighthood. In 1621, he obtained the grant of Nova Scotia. In 1626, the King appointed him Secretary of State for Scotland, created him a peer of that kingdom in 1630, by the title of Viscount Sterling, and soon afterwards, by letters patent, dated 14th June, 1633, made him Earl of Sterling. He discharged the duties of the office of Secretary of State with great reputation, until the time of his death, which happened in 1640. He left two sons and two daughters. The title of the Earl of Sterling has been supposed for many years to be extinct. *Haliburton's History of Nova Scotia*, I, 40. — Ed.

But, assuming Acadia according to the express terms of the grant, and according to the lines laid down in that Patent, the English are in the wrong, for it is certain that the forts they have built are without the designated points of the compass *(Rhumbs de Vent)*; that fort Saint George is on French territory, and the remainder on the lands of the Abenaquis. They have built, then, on lands belonging to others, and have manifestly contravened the Treaty of Utrecht.

Inasmuch as the ancient limits of Acadia have not been determined, it is at least certain and evident that the right of the English was doubtful. Does it belong, then, to the latter alone, to decide the question according to the plan they appear to have adopted, to encroach every where; and is it not an infraction of Treaties to act thus violently? The infraction is much more evident in respect to the Islands in front of Caneceaux, which are in the Gulf, and are, including their dependencies, ceded to France.

The Right of the French and English to Fort Niagara examined.

The claim of the English is quite recent, and has been put forth only since the peace of Utrecht. Fort Niagara, say they, is situate on Iroquois territory; the Iroquois are declared by the peace of Utrecht to be our subjects; therefore the French, by building a fort in the Iroquois country, establish themselves on soil belonging to others, and violate that article of the peace of Utrecht. Nothing is more frivolous, nor more easily upset than this pretence.

1st It is false that the Iroquois have been declared subjects of England by the Treaty of Utrecht; for, though Article 15 states nothing else than that the French and English mutually shall not anywise molest the Five Nations and other Indians their subjects or allies, the Iroquois are not once named. It was not pretended, in the discussions in Congress, what nations were allies or subjects; it was neither desired nor thought of, and this is apparent from Article 15 itself, in which it is specially stipulated that Commissioners shall be nominated to determine exactly who those will be that are, or ought to be deemed, subjects or friends of France and of Great Britain. France never did and never could understand that the English would carry their views so far; the thing is of such great importance that, had there been any question about it, it had well merited a distinct article, exactly stipulating that cession in the same manner as one was drawn up for Port Royal and other less important points.

2nd It is not known by what authority the English can regard the Iroquois as their subjects. There is not a single Indian Nation that France or England could treat in that wise. All the Indians, and particularly the Iroquois, who are superior to all the rest, have the feeling of Independence and their Liberty so much at heart, that they could not fail to be grievously insulted were they to be told that they were considered subjects. They pretend to be their own masters, and so they are; the Iroquois regard the English as their allies, but the French are such by a better title and of more ancient date.

The Governor of New-York would not now dare to say to the Iroquois—You are the subjects of the King of Great Britain; nor attempt any thing on their lands without having the consent of the National Council. This was recently made very manifest; for, the English being desirous to prevent the establishment at Niagara, and having repaired in large numbers to intercept M. de Longueuil, had the hardihood to stop him notwithstanding the passport he had from M. de Vaudreuil, Governor-general of New France. But M. de Longueuil complaining to the

Iroquois of that violence committed against the French, their ancient allies, the Iroquois took the matter up against the English, and did themselves favor the new establishment despite of all the opposition the English could manifest against it.

3rd If the English pretend to found their right to the country of the Iroquois, and consequently to them as subjects, on the grant that they themselves made of their lands and persons, through the pretended Ambassadors the Governor of New-York sent over to England towards the close of Queen Anne's reign, nothing certainly can be more frivolous. That was a pure farce that was acted in England, where these pretended Ambassadors were carried around as Iroquois Princes and Indian Kings, who were come to lay at the Queen's feet their Crowns, as people called a paltry ornament common to all Indians, and which among them is a token neither of honor nor of dignity. These pretended Ambassadors were nothing more than *Parkailers*[1] of no character; neither Chiefs nor deputies from the Chiefs or Council of the Nation, who in their hearts ridiculed the grand part they were made to perform, and have since been disavowed by the Five Nations, who delegated to them neither power, commission, nor character. The principal man among them was, as is commonly believed, poisoned by a secret vote of the Council; and finally, on rumors of their acts having transpired, the Five Nations sent a deputation to the Governor-general of New France, to inform him that they had intelligence of certain pretensions set up by the English, against whom they might in consequence be obliged to take up the hatchet; and to ascertain whether he would furnish them, in that case, with provisions and ammunition.

4th If either of the two Crowns had a right to regard the Five Nations as subjects, it should certainly be that of France, since the Iroquois have repeatedly placed themselves and their lands under the protection of the Most Christian King, by a vote of the Council of the entire Nation, and by authentic Instruments, signed by the Chiefs, after their fashion, with the figures of the Totems of the three Tribes—the Bear, the Wolf, and Tortoise. They themselves are aware that they have contracted, by virtue of these instruments, an alliance more potent than any ordinary one, such as that with the Crown of Great Britain. This they demonstrate in Council for upwards of a century, by the difference they observe between one and the other Crown; always calling the Governor-general of Canada, Father, whilst they call the Governors of New-York and Boston only Brother.

5th The Five Iroquois Nations did submit themselves and their lands, in a manner still more special and more solemn, at the time when Count de Frontenac and M. de Denonville carried the war into their proper country. They then escaped utter ruin only by the submission of their persons and lands—a submission which, in fact, arrested the anger of the victorious French, who had it in their power to utterly destroy them, and who are entitled, since that time, to regard them as subjects by right of conquest.

6th 'Tis certain that the Iroquois did unite themselves to the French by Treaties more ancient, more frequent, and much more authentic than those they concluded with Count de Frontenac and M. de Denonville, so that they considered themselves bound always to observe a strict neutrality with France. In fact, though the English regarded them as their subjects, they could never force them, throughout the whole of the last war, to take up arms against the French, notwithstanding the Iroquois and other Indians, settled in our Colonies, waged a very active war against the King of Great Britain's subjects.

[1] *Sic.* Qu! *Particuliers*, private individuals. — Ed.

7th The Iroquois never gave themselves to the English otherwise than as they gave themselves to us. If the English regard them as subjects, we can consider them such likewise, and with a better right, as I have just demonstrated. We alone, indeed, can justly do it, for, in fine, if they have given themselves up to France as subjects before they did so to England, they no longer possess the right to make themselves over to others, and we are justified in maintaining our possession.

8th It must, however, be admitted, as I have already remarked, that there is not an Indian Nation in North America that ought to be considered in any other light than as friends and allies. The Iroquois are allies of the English, but they are allies of the French, also; their alliance has existed in spite of the war waged by the two Crowns. Therefore, [if] Article 15 of the Treaty of Utrecht regards the French and the English equally, we are justified in preventing the English molesting the Iroquois, who are our allies. Therefore, if to have a fort at Niagara, on Iroquois territory, though with the consent of the Iroquois themselves, be to molest the Iroquois, the English are also deemed to molest them in having caused a post to be erected at Chouegen, which it is as much our interest to require them to demolish, as it can be theirs that we should raze that of Niagara.

9th All this is under the supposition that Forts Niagara and Chouaguen are on Iroquois territory, but this principle is false. The bounds of the Indian territory are indefinite, if it be pretended to include their hunting ground in it. Their country properly is only where their villages and fields are located, and on this principle the posts at Niagara and Chouaguen are on French territory. We do nothing, then, but rebuild a house in ruins on our own soil, where Fort Denonville stood, whilst the English, in establishing themselves at Chouaguein, build on French territory.

10th The possession of the River Saint Lawrence, and the liberty the French have to settle on what part of it soever they think proper, as well as on the Lakes, are so fully admitted by the English themselves, that, in order to preserve good correspondence between the two Crowns, it has been specially stipulated in the Treaties formerly concluded between the Governors of New France and New England that the subjects of Great Britain should not have the privilege of coming thither to trade with the Indians; that they would be deemed by the sole act as contravening the order of their Sovereign, and would subject themselves to the confiscation of all their goods, and to other penalties, etc.

11th Up to the Treaty of Utrecht, the English considered themselves so little masters of the Iroquois that they have never been able to prevent them having constantly in their villages French Missionaries, officers, garrisons, and some sort of forts. Even during the last war, they had Missionaries among them, who would still be there, were it not for the violences which the English have been always guilty of towards them, not with the consent of the chiefs of the Nation, but through indecent artifices constantly had recourse to even in time of profound peace, hiring individual Indians to get drunk and to insult the Missionaries. These persecutions have been, in fact, so frequent and so importunate, that the Missionaries, ever in danger of their lives from these drunken hirelings, have been obliged to abandon the place. This did not prevent the Chiefs and Council of the Five Nations asking the Governor-general of New France, repeatedly since the peace of Utrecht, to furnish them again with Missionaries for their instruction, which they certainly would not have done did they consider themselves subjects of England.

12th It betokens very slender acquaintance with the situation of America to pretend that this constructed fort would molest the Iroquois and cause trouble with the nations allies of England. So far from it giving them trouble, the Iroquois, who are the most interested therein, have consented to it, have desired it. No further proofs of that are necessary than the fact of the erection of the fort itself, for how could a hundred Frenchmen have succeeded in constructing this fort, if any disposition to oppose them prevailed among the Iroquois, who are in great numbers, and would have been seconded by the English?

13th We have, long ago, built forts in divers places on both branches of the River Saint Lawrence. So far from these forts being hurtful to the Indian trade, they serve only to secure it. The English can themselves acknowledge, in good faith, that these forts do not prevent our allies going to trade with them whenever so inclined.

14th The English cannot draw any argument from this in favor of their establishment at Chouaguen; because this latter is on French territory, intersects all communication between the Indians of the Upper and those of the Lower country, and has the same effect in favor of the English, as a fort between Paris and Rouen.

From all which it follows, that the French alone have the right to demand justice against the encroachments of the English; to require that they pull down the forts they have built on French territory, and on that belonging to the Abenaquis, our allies; abandon the Islands in the Gut of Canceaux; restore the goods and vessels they have captured, and make satisfaction for the Missionary and Indians they have killed, and for the Church and Mission they have destroyed.

Collated and compared with a copy of an unsigned Memoir or Note on paper in the Secretary's office of the Castle of St Louis, of Quebec, by the undersigned, Royal Notary, resident in the Prevoté of Quebec, this 25th day of July, 1750.

DULAURENT.

Francis Bigot, etc., etc. We certify, etc., etc.

Abstract of M. Dupuy's Memoir respecting the English.

Note of the Minister.

It appears proper to issue an Ordinance forbidding Strangers to remain or reside in Canada, unless settled on land to cultivate it, or working at some handicraft; to prohibit them trading or selling in any way or manner whatsoever. To put into execution the letters patents of the month of October, 1727, respecting Foreigners, &c.

M. Dupuy observes that special attention is to be paid to the great number of English artizans, merchants and others established at Montreal; that this nation has assuredly some designs on that town, and that an order from the King to all these families to remove to Quebec would benefit that town and derange their projects.

That 'twould have been desirable to have anticipated the establishment at Choueguen (advice whereof was given) by sending thither at the very opening of the spring. However, though the house be built, if the suppression of smuggling and the sale within the Colony of prohibited articles be made an object, they will have that post pulled down, for it is rather a speculation of the Merchants than a National undertaking.

Pennsylvania 1750.

Brethren.

We have thought a great deal of what you imparted to us, that Ye were come to turn the People off who are settled over the Hills; We are pleased to see you on this Occasion, and as the Council of Onondago has this Affair exceedingly at Heart, and it was particularly recommended to us by the Deputies of the Six Nations, when they parted from us last Summer; We desire to ... accompany You. But We are afraid, notwithstanding the Care of the Governor, that this may prove like many former Attempts; the People will be put off now, and come next Year again, and if so, the Six Nations will no longer bear it, but do themselves Justice. To prevent this therefore, when you shall have turned the People off. We recommend it to the Governor, to place two or three .... Faithful Persons over the Mountains, who may be agreeable to him and us, with Commissions impowering them immediately to remove every one, who shall presume after this to settle there, untill the Six Nations shall agree to make Sale of their Lands. To enforce this they gave a String of Wampum, and received one in Return from the Magistrates, with the Strongest Assurances that they would do their Duty.

The Governor then desired the Gentlemen of the Council, to take the above several Matters into their serious Consideration, and advise him what might be proper for him to do on this Occasion. Who were unanimously of Opinion, That as this Government is as strictly united with the Indians of the Six Nations and those of Ohio, as any other Government on the Continent, and has upon all Occasions acted as friendly a Part by them, it is most probable, that if they had apprehended such imminent Danger as is mentioned in Coll Johnson's Letter, they would as naturally have applyed to this Province for Assistance as to that of New York. That as well by Mr Peters's Information, as by the Testimony of the Indian Traders come from Ohio, it appears matter of Doubt to themselves, whether they shall be molested this Summer. That as this Province is circumstanced, the Only Assistance that can be given them, is by furnishing them with Guns, Powder, Lead &c[a] to fight their Enemies, the Expence whereof, they are apprehensive the Assembly may scruple to repay, without receiving some stronger Evidence of the Necessity of its being advanced, than Coll Johnsons Letter to the Governor of Another Province. That upon the Whole they cannot advise the Governor either to advance his Money, or to call the Assembly together on this Occasion, but to wait untill He receive a more authentick Application from the Indians themselves, than has hitherto been made to him.

Memorandum The following Persons were appointed Justices of the Peace and of the Common Pleas in the County of Cumberland by a Commission bearing Date the Tenth Day of March 1749 viz[t] Samuel Smith, William Maxwell, George Croghan, Robert Dunning, Mathew Dill, Benjamin Chambers, William Trent, William Allison, Hermanus Alricks, John Miller, Robert Chambers, John Finley and Thomas Wilson.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Tuesday 31st July 1750.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor

Thomas Lawrence, Samuel Hasell, Robert Strettell, Joseph Turner, Thomas Hopkinson, Richard Peters } Esquires

Conrad Weiser Indian Interpreter.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor laid before the Board a Message from the Chiefs of the Four Nations of the Twightwees, which was spoke to Mr Hugh Crawford Indian Trader, in one of the Twightwee Towns on the Owabach, where he was trading last Winter, and which he put down in Writing Mr Crawford added, that though he was orderd to deliver it to the Governor of Pennsylvania, and the Traders of that Province only were mentioned, yet the Message was to all his majesties Governors, and the Invitation to the Traders of all the English Provinces.

A Message from the Twightwees sent by Mr Hugh Cranford to the English Governors, tho' only delivered to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

The Four Miamy Nation of Indians (Part of whom were at Lancaster last Year) desired Hugh Cranford to acquaint the Governor James Hamilton Esquire, That last July, about Two Hundred French and Thirty Five French Indians came to their Towns, in order to perswade them to return back to the French Settlements, from whence they came; or if fair means would not prevail with them, they were to take them away by Force, but the French finding that they were resolved to adhere to the English, and perceiving their Numbers to be great, were discouraged from using any Hostile Measures, and began to be afraid least they should themselves be cut off. The French brought them a Present consisting of Four Half Barrels of Powder, Four Bags of Bullets and Four Bags of Paint, with a few needles and a little Thread, which they refused to accept of; whereupon the French and their Indians made the best of their Way off for Fear of the worst, leaving their Goods scattering about. But at the Time of their Conference, the French upbraided the Indians for joining the English, and more so for continuing in their Interest, who had never sent them any Presents, nor even any Token of their Regards to them.

The Indians further desired Hugh Cranford to assure the Governors of their steady Friendship to the English, which they hoped would last whilst the Sun and Moon ran round the World

The Indians send by Hugh Cranford to the Governor Four Strings of Wampum to confirm their message, and Two Strings more that the Traders of Pennsylvania may be ..... encouraged by him to go out and deal with them, and they earnestly request the Favour of an Answer from the Governors by the said Hugh Cranford.

19. May 1750. Hugh Cranford.

The Governor laid before the Council a Conference held with the Indians by Mr Peters at Mr Croghans on Thursday the 7th of June 1750 which was ordered to be entred.

At a Conference held with the Indians at Mr Croghans on Thursday the 7th of June 1750 By Mr Peters.

Present

Richard Peters Esquire Secretary.

George Croghan, Mathew Dill, Hermanus Aldrichs, William Trent, George Stevenson } Esquires

Andrew Montour

Cana-ja-chanâh alias Broken Kettle

Hatchin-hatta

Cadsedan-huânt

Chiefs of the Seneca Nations settled at Ohio.

Cana-ja-chanâh spoke as follows

Brethren

We have been sent for by Capt Cresap, and are now upon our Road to his House, meeting with Settlements of White People as we came along from Allegheny, we asked why they settled so far back, and whether the Six Nations had sold that Land to Pennsylvania, but received from them no satisfactory Answer, as we came among the Inhabitants, we were told that the Lands were not sold by the Six Nations, and that the Secretary had been turning the White People off, and was at Mr Croghans, whereupon we came here to enquire if this be true, and as we find it is. We return the Government Thanks for their Care of our Lands.

We were sent from Ohio about Six Years ago to Canada, to desire the French to supply Us with Goods, and they could not supply Us, when we returned, our Council determined to send a String of Wampum to the Governor of Pennsylvania, to desire that the English Governors would send their Traders with Goods among us, which String was sent by James Lowry, to which we have received no Answer; therefore We present You with this String, to know whether that was delivered, or any answer ever given to it.

A String of Wampum.

Brother

Pennsylvania 1750.

Brother

The Six Nations come down every Year to sell Land, and We are Part of the Six Nations, live at Allegheny and hunt there. They sell Lands and give us no Accounts of the Value, therefore We are sent by the Ohio Council to desire our Brother the Governor to recommend it to the Six Nations, that when any Lands shall be sold, we may have Part of the Value.

We are now become a stronger Body than when We received the Present from Our Brothers the Governors of Virginia and Pennsylvania, and have got many to join us, and are become a great Body, and desire to be taken Notice of as such, and for this Purpose Our Nations by Us present this

Belt of Wampum.

Tho' We have been sent for by Capt Cresap, yet if it be to buy Lands of Us, We shall have nothing to say to that, as it has not been given us in Charge by our Council; but if it should be for any thing else, perhaps Trade, now we see you, we would know your Opinion about it.

The Secretary Answered

I am glad I happened to be here, and shall consider your message, and give you such an answer this Afternoon as I can, tho' whatever I say will be only my private Sentiments.

In the Afternoon.

Present as before.

Brethren

I shall give your Belt to the Governor, and faithfully relate what was said to me at the Delivery of it, and doubt not but you will receive his Honour's Answer in a little Time.

As Trade is of a private Nature, the Indians, since you ask my Advice, ought to buy their Goods where they can be best served. The People of Maryland and Virginia who deal in this Trade, may serve You as well as any Others from Pennsylvania or elsewhere, and I advise You by all Means to go to Capt Cresaps, and to cultivate a good Understanding with every body who can supply you with Goods, for it is equal to this Government from whence the Indians are supplied, so that there be a good Harmony kept up between them and all the King's Subjects. It is no Part of my Business to give You Advice, but I cannot help repeating to You my Sentiments, that you do well to trade with the good People of Virginia and Maryland as well as with those of Pennsylvania, and to give them the Preference, if you find they treat You better than our People. And as I am now at the House of an Indian Trader, I charge you Mr Montour to tell them truly what I say, and that it will be agreeable to the Proprietaries, and this Government, that the Indians trade wherever they can be best supplied.

In a Conversation after the Conference the Indians desired Andrew to relate to me the particulars which passed about the Invitation of Cresap viz. that last Fall Barny Currant a hired Man of Mr Parker brought them a Message from Cresap, to let them know that he had a Quantity of Goods and from the true Love that he bore to the Indians he gave them viz Seneca George, Broken Kettle and the Stone an Invitation to come and see him, that he intended to let them have his Goods at a low rate much cheaper than the Pennsylvania Traders sold them and notwithstanding the People of Pennsylvania always told them they were Brethren and had a great Value for them yet this only come from their Mouth and not from their Heart for they constantly cheated them in all their Dealings, which he Colo Cresap was very well acquainted with, and taking Pity of them he intended to use them in another manner, and mentioned the rates that he and Mr Parker would sell their Goods to them at, which is cheaper than the first Cost be they any where imported viz. a Matchcoat for a Buck, a Strowd for a Buck and a Doe, a pair of Stockings for two Racoons, twelve Bars of Lead for a Buck and so on in Proportion.

Then was read Mr Peters's Report of the Proceedings of the Magistrates of Cumberland County, against the Trespassers over the Blue Hills, and Mr Weiser saying it was a just and

true

true Account, and desiring it might be received as his own in the several Transactions wherein he was personally concerned, it was orderd to be enterd.

To the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of Newcastle, Kent and Sussex, on Delaware;

The Report of Richard Peters Esquire Secretary of the Province of Pennsylvania, of the Proceedings against sundry Persons settled in the unpurchased Part of the Province aforesaid.

May it Please your Honour

W Weiser and I having received your Honour's Orders to give Information to the proper Magistrates against all such as had presumd to settle and remain on the Lands beyond the Kittochtinny Mountains, not purchased of the Indians, in Contempt of the Laws repeatedly signified by Proclamations, and particularly by your Honour's late one; and to bring them to a Legal Conviction, least for want of their Removal a Breach should ensue between the Six Nations of Indians, and this Province: We set out on Tuesday the fifteenth Day of may last, for the new County of Cumberland, where the Places on which the Trespassers had settled, lay.

At Mr Croghans, we met with five Indians, three from Shamokin, two of which were Sons of the late Shickcalamy, who transact the Business of the Six Nations with this Government; two were just arrived from Allegheny, viz. one of the Mohock's Nation, called Aaron, and Andrew Montour the Interpreter at Ohio. Mr Montour, telling us he had a Message from the Ohio Indians, and Twightwees, to this Government, and desiring a Conference, one was held on the eighteenth of May last, in the Presence of James Galbreth, George Croghan, William Wilson and Hermanus Alrichs Esquires, Justices of the County of Cumberland; and when Mr Montour's Business was done, we, with the Advice of the other Justices, imparted to the Indians the Design we were assembled upon, at which they expressed great Satisfaction.

Another Conference was held, at the Instance of the Indians in the Afternoon, in the Presence of Mr Galbreth and Mr Croghan, beforementioned; wherein they expressed themselves as follows;

"Brethren, We have thought a great deal of what you imparted to us, that ye were come to turn the People off who are settled over the Hills; we are pleased to see you on this occasion, and as the Council of ..... Onondago has this Affair exceedingly at Heart, and it was particularly recommended to us by the Deputies of the Six Nations, when they parted from us last Summer, we desire to accompany you; but we are afraid, notwithstanding the Care of the Governor, that this may prove like many former Attempts: the People will be put off now, and next Year come again; and if so, the Six Nations will no longer bear it, but do themselves Justice: To prevent this therefore, when you shall have turned the People off, we recommend it to the Governor, to place two or three faithful Persons over the Mountains, who may be agreeable to him and us, with Commissions, impowering them immediately to remove every one who shall presume after this to settle there, untill the Six Nations shall agree to make Sale of their Land". To enforce this, they gave a String of Wampum, and received one in return from the ..... Magistrates, with the strongest Assurances that they would do their Duty.

On Tuesday the twenty second of May, Mather Dill, George Croghan, Benjamin Chambers, ... Thomas Wilson, John Finley and James Galbreth Esquires, Justices of the said County of Cumberland; attended by the Under Sheriff, came to Big Juniata, situate at the Distance of twenty five miles from the mouth thereof, and about ten miles North from the Blue Hills, a Place much esteemed by the Indians for some of their best hunting Ground; and there they found five Cabbins or Log Houses, one possessed by William White, another by George Cahoon, another not quite finished in Possession of David Hiddleston, another possessed by George and William Galloway, and another by Andrew Lycon; of these Persons, William White, George and William Galloway, David Hiddleston, and George Cahoon, appeared before the Magistrates, and being asked by what Right or Authority they had possessed themselves of those Lands, and erected Cabbins thereon? They replied, by no Right nor Authority, but that the Land belonged to the .... Proprietaries of Pennsylvania. They then were asked, whether they did not know they were acting against the Law, and in Contempt of frequent Notices given them by the Governor's Proclamation? They said they had seen one such Proclamation, and had nothing to say for themselves, but craved

mercy.

Pennsylvania 1750.

Mercy. Hereupon the said William White, George and William Galloway, David Hiddleston and George Cohoon, being convicted by the said Justices on their View, the Under-Sheriff was chargd with them, and he took William White, David Hiddleston and George Cohoon into Custody; but George and William Galloway resisted, and having got at some Distance from the Under-Sheriff, they called to Us; "You may take our Lands and Houses, and do what you please with them; we deliver them to you with all our Hearts, but we will not be carried to Gaol."

The next Morning, being Wednesday, the twenty third of May, the said Justices went to the ... Log House or Cabbin of Andrew Lycon, and finding none there but Children, and hearing that the Father and Mother were expected soon, and William White and others offering to become Security jointly and severally, and to enter into Recognizance as well for Andrew's Appearance at Court, and immediate Removal, as for their own; this Proposal was accepted; and William White, ... David Hiddleston and George Cohoon, enterd into a Recognizance of One Hundred Pounds, and executed Bonds to the Proprietaries in the Sum of Five Hundred Pounds, reciting, that they were Trespassers, and had no manner of Right, and had deliverd Possession to me for the Proprietaries. Then the Magistrates went to the Log House or Cabbin of George and William Galloway (which they had delivered up as aforesaid the Day before, after they were convicted, and were flying from the Sheriff) all the Goods belonging to the said George and William were taken out, and the Cabbin being quite empty, I took Possession thereof for the Proprietaries; and then a Conference was held, what should be done with the empty Cabbin, and after great Deliberation, all agreed, that if some Cabbins were not destroyed, they would tempt the ..... Trespassers to return again, or encourage others to come there, should these Trespassers go away; ... and so what was doing would signify nothing, since the Possession of them at such a Distance from the Inhabitants could not be kept for the Proprietaries; and Mr Weiser also giving it as his firm Opinion, that if all the Cabbins were left standing, the Indians would conceive such a contemptible Opinion of the Government, that they would come themselves in the Winter, murder the People, and set their Houses on Fire: On these Considerations the Cabbin, by my Order, was burnt by the Under-Sheriff and Company.

Then the Company went to the House possessed by David Hiddleston, who had enterd into Bond as aforesaid, and he having voluntarily taken out all the Things which were in the Cabbin; and left me in Possession, that empty and unfinish'd Cabbin was likewise set on Fire by the Under-Sheriff by my Order.

The next Day, being the twenty fourth of may, Mr Weiser and Mr Galbreth, with the Under-Sheriff and myself, on our Way to the Mouth of Juniata, called at Andrew Lycons, with Intent only to inform him, that his Neighbours were bound for his Appearance and immediate Removal, and to caution him not to bring himself or them into Trouble by a Refusal: But he ... presenting a Loaded Gun to the Magistrates and Sheriff, said, he would shoot the first man that dar'd to come nigher. On this he was disarmd, convicted, and committed to the Custody of the Sheriff. This whole Transaction happened in the Sight of a Tribe of Indians, who by Accident had in the night-time fix'd their Tent on that Plantation; and Lycon's Behaviour giving them great Offence, the Shichcalamies insisted on our burning the Cabbin, or they would burn it themselves: Whereupon, when every thing was taken out of it (Andrew Lycon all the while assisting) and Possession being .... deliver'd to me, the empty Cabbin was set on Fire by the Under-Sheriff, and then Lycon was carried to Gaol.

Mr Benjamin Chambers, and Mr George Croghan, had about an hour before separated from us; and on my meeting them again in Cumberland County, they reported to me that they had been at Sheerman's Creek, or Little Juniata, situate about six Miles over the Blue Mountains, and found there James Parker, Thomas Parker, Owen McKeeb, John McClare, Richard Kirkpatrick, James Murray, John Scott, Henry Gass, John Cowan, Simon Girtee and John Kilaugh, who had settled Lands, and erected Cabbins or Log-Houses thereon; and having convicted them of the Trespass on their own View, they had bound them in Recognizances of the Penalty of One Hundred Pounds, to appear and answer for their Trespasses on the first Day of the next County Court of Cumberland, to be held at Shippensburgh; and that the said Trespassers had likewise enterd into Bonds to the Proprietaries in Five Hundred .... Pounds Penalty to remove off immediately; with all their Servants, Cattle and Effects: and had .... delivered Possession of their Houses to Mr George Stevenson for the Proprietaries Use; and that Mr

Stevenson

Stevenson had orderd some of the meanest of those Cabbins to be set on Fire, where the Families were not large, nor the Improvements considerable.

On Monday, the twenty eighth of May, we were met at Shippensburgh by Samuel Smith, ... William Maxwell, George Croghan, Benjamin Chambers, Robert Chambers, William Allison, William Trent, John Finley, John Miller, Hermanus Alrichs, and James Galbreth, Esquires, Justices of Cumberland County, who informing us that the People in the Tuscoraro Path, in the Big Cove, and at Aucquick, ... would submit, Mr Weiser most earnestly prefsed, that he might be excused any further Attendance, having Abundance of necefsary Businefs to do at Home; and the other Magistrates, tho' with much Reluctance, at last consenting, he left us.

On Wednesday, the thirtieth of May, the Magistrates and Company, being detaind two Days by Rain, proceeded over the Kittochtinny Mountains, and enterd into the Tuscoraro Path, or Path-valley, thro' which the Road to Allegheny lies. Many Settlements were found in this Valley, and all the People were sent for, and the following Persons appeard, viz: Abraham Slach, James Blair, Moses Moore, Arthur Dunlap, Alexander McCartie, David Lewis, Adam McCartie, Felix Doyle, Andrew Dunlap, Robert Wilson, Jacob Pyatt, Jacob Pyatt Junior, William Ramage, Reynolds Alexander, Samuel Patterson, Robert Baker, John Armstrong and John Potts, who were all convicted by their own Confefsion to the Magistrates, of the like Trespafses with those at Sheerman's Creek, and were bound in the like Recognizances to appear at Court, and Bonds to the Proprietaries to remove with all their Families, Servants, Cattle and Effects, and having all voluntarily given Pofsefsion of their Houses to me, some ordinary Log Houses, to the Number of eleven, were burnt to the Ground: the Trespafsers, most of them chearfully, and a very few of them with Reluctance, carrying out all their Goods. Some had been deserted before, and lay waste.

At Aucquick Peter Falconer, Nicholas De Long, Samuel Perry and John Charleton, were ..... convicted on the View of the Magistrates, and having enterd into the like Recognizances, and executed the like Bonds, Charleton's Cabbin was burnt, and Fire set to another that was but just begun, consisting only of a few Logs pild, and fastened to one another.

The like Proceedings at Big Cove, against Andrew Donaldson, John Macclelland, Charles Stewart, James Downy, John Macmican, Robert Kendell, Samuel Brown, William Shepperd, Roger Murphy, Robert Smith, William Dickey, William Millican, William Macconnell, Alexander Macconnell, James Campbell, William Carrell, John Martin, John Jamison, Hans Patter, John Maccollin, Adam Macconnell, James Wilson and John Wilson; who coming before the Magistrates, were convicted on their own Confefsion, of the like Trespafses as in the former Cases; and were all bound over in the like Recognizances, and executed the like Bond to the Proprietaries. Three waste Cabbins, of no Value, were burnt at the North End of the Cove by the Persons that claimd the right to them.

The Little Cove, and Big and Little Conollways, being the only Places remaining to be visited, as this was on the Borders of Maryland, the Magistrates declind going there, and departed to their Homes. The next Day several of the Inhabitants of the Little Cove came to me at Philip Davies', and gave me a Petition, addrefsed to the Governor, purporting, That they were settled to the North of .. the Temporary Line, in the Province of Pennsylvania, Westward to the Place where that Line was left off, and prayd that his Honour might suffer them to remain there, till the Line should be extended, and the Purchase made of the Lands from the Indians: Finding the Petition signd only by a few, I returned it, telling them, when it was signed by more, if it should appear to me that they were North of the Temporary Line, I would recommend their Case to the Governor; but that if they were settled to the South of the Temporary Line, they were in the Jurisdiction of Maryland, and this Government would have nothing to do with them; adding, that what had been done was solely with a View to prevent an Indian War, and was undertaken as much to serve the ... neighbouring Colonies as our own: That there was a good Harmony subsisting between the Governments of Pennsylvania and Maryland, and I hopd it would always continue; and .... recommended it to them earnestly, not to have Recourse to this Government, if they were to the South of the Line; or if they were really to the North of it, that they would give no Umbrage to Maryland, but behave friendly, and be sure to avoid creating any Cause of Complaint from the Governor of Maryland.

I have truly related the several matters of Fact in the Order they were done by the Magistrate, as

Pennsylvania 1750.

as well as myself: but I should not do Justice to myself, or Mr Weiser, in whom your Honour placed the same Confidence, and whom I principally consulted about the Mode of executing your Commands, if I should close my Report here, without giving the History of these Settlements, and shewing upon what solid and just Reasonings our Proceedings were founded. Your Honour will therefore indulge me, in laying this matter particularly before you, that it may appear we have acted a right and dutiful Part to the Government, and a kind and affectionate Part to these indiscreet People.

About the Year 1740 or 1741, one Frederich Star, a German, with two or three more of his ... Countrymen, made some small Settlements, at the very same Place where we found William White, the Galloways, and Andrew Lycon; which were discovered by the Delawares at Shamokin, to the Deputies of the Six Nations, as they came down to Philadelphia in the Year 1742, to hold a Treaty with this Government; and they were so disturbed at it, as to enquire, with a peculiar Warmth, of Governor Thomas, if these People had come there by the Orders, or with the Privity of the Government, alledging that if it was so, this was a Breach of the Treaties subsisting between the Six Nations, and the Proprietor William Penn, who in the most Solemn manner had engaged to them, not to suffer any of the People to settle Lands till he had purchased them from the Council of the Six Nations: The Governor, as he might with great Truth, disowned any Knowledge of these Persons Settlements; and, on the Indians insisting that they should be immediately thrown over the mountains, he promised to issue his Proclamation, and if this had no Effect, to put the Laws in Execution against them. The Indians in the same Treaty, publickly ... expressd very severe Threats against the Inhabitants of Maryland, for settling Lands for which they had received no Satisfaction; and said, if they would not do them Justice, they would do Justice to themselves; and would certainly have committed Hostilities, if a Treaty had not have been set on Foot between Maryland and the Six Nations, under the Mediation of Governor Thomas; at which the Indians consented to sell the Lands, and received a valuable Consideration for them, which put an End to the Danger.

The Proprietaries were then in England, but observing, on perusing the Treaty, with what Asperity they had expressed themselves against Maryland, and that the Indians had just Cause to complain of the Settlements at Juniata, so near Shamokin: they wrote to their Governor in very pressing Terms, to cause those Trespassers to be immediately removed; and both the Proprietaries and Governor laid their Commands on me to see this done, which I accordingly did in June, 1743, the Governor having first given them Notice, by a Proclamation served upon them.

At that time none had presumed to settle at a Place called the Big Cove (having this Name from its being enclosed in the Form of a Bason by the furthermost Range of the Kittochtinny ... Hills, and the Tuscorara Hills, which last end here, and lose themselves in other Hills) this Big Cove is about is about five miles North of the Temporary Line, and not far to the West of .... the Place where the Line terminated. Between the Big Cove and the Temporary Line, lies the Little Cove, so called from being likewise encircled with Hills; and to the West of the Little Cove, towards Patowmec, lie two or three other Places, called the Big and Little Conollways, all of them situate .. on the Temporary Line, was it to be extended towards Patowmec. In the Year 1741, or 1742, ... Information was likewise given, that People were beginning to settle in these Places, some from .... Maryland, and others from this Province: But as the two Governments were then not on very good Terms, the Governor did not think it proper to take any other Notice of these Settlements, than to send the Sheriff to serve his Proclamation on them, tho' it gave ample Occasion to lament the vast Inconveniencies which attend unsettled Boundaries. After this the French War came on, and the People in those Parts taking Advantage of the Confusion of the Times, by little and little stole into the Great Cove; so that at the End of the War, it was said thirty Families had settled there, not however without frequent Prohibitions on the Part of the Government, and Admonitions of the .. great Danger they run, of being cut off by the Indians, as these Settlements were on Lands not purchased of them: And at the Close of the War, Mr Maxwell, one of the Justices of Lancaster County, delivered a particular Message from this Government to them, ordering their Removal, that they might not occasion a Breach with the Indians; but it had no Effect.

These were, to the best of my Remembrance, all the Places settled by the Pennsylvanians in the unpurchased Part of the Province, till about three Years ago, when some Persons had the ....

Presumption

Presumption to go into the Path-Valley, or Tuscorara Gaps, lying to the East of the Big Cove, and into a Place called Aucquick, lying to the northward of it; and likewise into a Place called Sherman's Creek, lying all along the Waters of Juniata, and is situate East of the Path Valley, thro' which the present Road goes from Harris's Ferry to Allegheny; and lastly, they extended their Settlements to Big Juniata; the Indians all this while repeatedly complaining, that their Hunting Ground was every Day more and more taken from them; and that there must infallibly arise Quarrels between their Warriors and these Settlers, which would in the End break the Chain of Friendship, and .... pressing in the most importunate Terms their speedy Removal. The Government in 1748, sent the Sheriff, and three Magistrates, with Mr Weiser, unto these Places to warn the People; but they, ... notwithstanding, continued their Settlements, in Opposition to all this, and as if these People ... were only prompted by a Desire to make Mischief, settled Lands no better, nay not so good, as many vacant Lands within the purchased Parts of the Province.

The Bulk of these Settlements were made during the Administration of President Palmer; and it is well known to your Honour, tho then in England, that his Attention to the Safety of the City and the Lower Counties, would not permit him to extend more Care to Places so remote.

In these Circumstances Matters stood between the Indians and this Province, when the Six Nations came last Summer to visit the Government, on the Closing of the War, and to receive a Present in Reward of their Fidelity. At this Treaty they renewed their Complaints, of the Injuries received by these Encroachments on their hunting Grounds, and peremptorily insisted on the Removal of the Intruders; and your Honour, as an Expedient to quiet them, proposed a Purchase of those Lands from the Indians; signifying to them, that it would be more agreeable to you to buy them (as the Cause of Complaint principally arose there) than any other; but they absolutely refused, and instead thereof made an Offer of about two Millions of Acres on the East Side of Sasquehannah, saying the People might go and settle there, which was accepted, and a Sum of Money paid them down; and thereupon a Proclamation was issued, to warn the People against continuing or settling on any unpurchased Land over Sasquehannah, on the severest Penalties; but this making no Impression, your Honour issued Orders to me and Mr Weiser, to effect their Removal.

I leave it to Mr Weiser (as he was joined with me by your Honour) to make his own Report; and shall only observe, that in all our Consultations, he (who is Indian Interpreter for Virginia and Maryland, as well as this Province, and must be supposed to know the Minds of the Indians the best) proceeded on this as a certain Truth, that if we did not in this Journey entirely remove these People, it would not be in the Power of the Government to prevent an Indian War; and that as the neighbouring Provinces were as much concerned in this Event as .... ourselves, he recommended it to the Magistrates either not to go, or to act with the utmost Spirit; and his Arguments were so convincing, that all the Magistrates determined to go in a Body.

I had furnish'd myself with blank Convictions and Mittimus's, settled by the Attorney General on the Act of Assembly, intituled A Supplementary Act &c. and had taken his Instructions, and was determined to proceed by Conviction, Fine and Imprisonment; but when on the very first Attempt to convict and imprison, the two Galloways fled from the Sheriff, it then appeared very plain to every body, that this Method would not answer; and that if the Trespassers, who were more numerous in other Parts, should believe they were to be carried to be Prison, they would either unite, and with a .... superior Force resist the Magistrates; or they would flee from Justice, and, in short, that the .... whole Design must infallibly miscarry.

And it was remembered, that in a similar Case on Complaint of the Indians, in the Year 1721, the Magistrates residing in that Part of the Province did, by Order of the then Governor, burn and destroy the Houses and Habitations of certain Settlers on Lands on the West Side of Sasquehannah, without Right. On this the Persons in Custody were told, that they should deliver Possession of their Places to me, and become bound in a Bond to the Proprietaries in Five Hundred Pounds, conditioned to move off with all their Cattle &c. And that in the Condition they should acknowledge, they had given Possession to me for the Proprietaries; and were told at the same time, that some Cabbins must be burnt: With this they were satisfied, and chearfully executed the Bonds, and expected that as their Cabbins did now belong to the Proprietaries, the Person in Possession for them might do what he pleased with

them

them, and that some, if not all, would be destroyed.

At the Path Valley, and indeed at all other Places, the Offenders were got together, and were told by the Magistrates beforehand, what was intended to be done; and that all the new settled Cabbins would be burnt. After they were told this, they executed the Bonds, thereby putting me into Possession, and very chearfully and voluntarily took every thing out of their Log Houses, and assisted in burning them. In truth, all submitted in every Place, except the two Galloways, and Andrew Lycon; and even the two Galloways came voluntarily after their Cabbin was burnt, and surrendered their Persons, and entered into Bonds, and expressed Satisfaction at what had been done to their Cabbin; saying, That if the Indians were determined they should not stay there, it was better to go away directly, as it was Summer Time, and mild Weather.

Finding such a general Submission, and verily believing the Evil would be effectually taken away, there was no Kindness in my Power, which I did not do for the Offenders; giving them .... Money where they were poor, and telling them, they might go directly on any Part of the two Millions of Acres lately purchased of the Indians; and where the Families were large, as I happened to have several of my own Plantations vacant, I offered them to stay on them Rent-free, till they could provide for themselves; then I told them, that if after all this Lenity and good Usage, they would dare to stay after the Time limited for their Departure, no mercy would be shewed, but that they would feel the whole Rigour of the Law.

It may be proper to add, that the Cabbins or Log Houses which were burnt, were of no considerable Value; being such as the Country People erect in a day or two, and cost only the Charge of an Entertainment.

Thus I have given your Honour a full Relation of the whole Transaction, humbly ... hoping the Part I have acted therein will meet with your Approbation; and that it will have the desired good Effect in removing the Trespassers, and prevent their returning to their ..... Settlements, and any future Clamours or Complaints from the Indians on that Head, and am

Your Honours

most obedient humble Servant.

Philadelphia, July 2. 1750. Richard Peters.

The Governor was informd by Mr. Montour, that two or three Traders had been killed within these two Years by the Indians, that the Murderers were not under the least Censure for them, and that the Traders, contrary to their Duty, and to the manifest danger of the Lives of his Majesties Subjects, had made no complaint to his Honour of these Murders, that he could not tell whether the Facts were committed in Virginia or this Province, but, in whichever Province, if no notice was taken of it by this Government, it might occasion the shedding of abundance of innocent Blood, and prove of fatal Consequence; whereupon his Honour drew up the following ... Message, and gave it in charge to Mr Montour, to deliver it, and to observe all the Forms and Ceremonies used in delivering such Messages, so that the Complaint might go with the greatest Force, and if any Expression be omitted necessary and usual on such occasions, that he should supply it.

To the Indians of the Six Nations Shanonese, Delawares and Others living at Ohio.

Brethren

I was surprised by some of my People who lately came from Ohio with the News, that two or three of them had been killed by you within these few Years, and that no manner of notice was taken of the Murders by you. You must be sensible that to see the Blood of our own People is aggravating, and is sometimes of dangerous Consequence, if proper care be not taken by the wise men of the Place where it is shed. I must therefore charge you to make a strict enquiry what occasioned the Blood of my People, for you cannot expect according to the Law of Nations that I can treat with you on friendly terms, till you have brought the Murderers to Justice. I have been informed that some of you said one of the persons killed was a Virginian, and this would not draw on you the anger of the Government of Pennsylvania, but I must tell you, that to hurt or kill any of

the

the Inhabitants of that Province will give us equal concern, and equal offence, as if it was one who lived in my Government, we are all one People, there is no difference between us, and if any one be hurt all ought to resent it, and will do it you may depend upon it.

A String of Wampum.

The Governor then laid before the Board his answer to the Message from the Twightwees or Miamis sent by Mr Hugh Crawford which is entered in the first part of this Minute

A Message from the Governor to the Twightwee Nation

Brethren the Twightwees or Miamis

I have received Four Strings on Behalf of Four of your Nations by Mr Hugh Crawford, and your Message purporting, that a Number of French and French Indians came to your Towns last Summer, and by Persuasions, and Presents, and when these were rejected, by Menaces, endeavour'd to shake your friendship for us, but all to no purpose - and that you were determined to continue faithful to us, and desired more traders may be sent with goods into your Country.

I have repeated the Message that you may know what was delivered to me by Mr Crawford, and in answer, I assure you on behalf of this and the other English Governments, to whom I shall ..... communicate your Message, that we have a grateful Sense of your Attachment to us, and desire our Alliance may be as strong as the strongest Mountain, and endure while the Sun shines and the .... Rivers run - I have proposed it to some of the best of our traders to carry on commerce with you, and to sell you their Goods at as easy a price as they can afford, and by all means to cultivate a good .... understanding with you, and they seem willing to do it, but as your towns are at a great distance from the Six Nations, and that several of your Tribes seem still to be firmly attached to the French, the traders cannot help expressing their apprehensions of the great danger there is in being ..... intercepted either in their passage to, or return from, your country; and that unless some measures be concerted to preserve the road safe and commodious for their persons and effects, it will not be possible to extend their Trade into countrys so remote, to any great degree - I mention this .... with the more earnestness as I have lately received information that two of our traders going from the Logs Town to the Twightwees, about three hundred miles from the first place were either killed or taken by the French, or Indians, and that a Party of French Indians have killed fourteen of our people belonging to Carolina, I say our people, for the inhabitants of Carolina, Virginia, ... Maryland, this Province and New York are all one people, and if any be obstructed, robbed, or killed, all of us are equally affected, and must resent it alike - Some other stories are likewise told us which if true make it evident that the road is by no means safe to travel.

We give you four strings of wampum in acknowledgment of your professions, and thereby assure you, that we desire to bind the chain of friendship between us, as firm as it can possibly be.

Here give a string of four rows of wampum.

Inasmuch as the road is insecure and the traders make a difficulty of travelling in it while it is so, we give you this belt to remove out of it every thing that renders it dangerous.

Here a belt of wampum of eight rows.

There is a hearty inclination in the English Governments towards all the Twightwee Nations, and it would be a pleasure to them to have an opportunity of shewing you, the many advantages ..... which would accrue to you from your alliance with the English - If I receive the answer from the other Governors time enough to send it this fall I will transmit it to you, if not, you may expect it early in the Spring.

Philadelphia
27th August 1750.

prevent this, therefore, when you shall have turned the People off We recommend it to the Governor to place two or three Faithful Persons over the Mountains who may be agreeable to him and Us, with Commissions impowering them immediately to remove every one who shall presume after this to settle there, until the Six Nations shall agree to make Sale of their Lands. To enforce this they gave a String of Wampum and received one in Return from the Magistrates, with the Strongest Assurances that they would do their duty.'"

The Governor then desired the Gentlemen of the Council to take the above several matters into their serious Consideration, and advise him what might be proper for him to do on this Occasion, Who were unanimously of Opinion, That as this Governm^{t} is as strictly united with the Indians of the Six Nations and those of Ohio, as any other Government on the Continent, and has upon all Occasions acted as friendly a Part by them, it is most probable that if they had apprehended such imminent Danger as is mentioned in Col^{o} Johnson's Letter, they would as naturally have applyed to this Province for Assistance as to that of New York; That as well by Mr. Peters' Information as by the Testimony of the Indian Traders come from Ohio, it appears Matter of Doubt to themselves whether they shall be molested this Summer; That as this Province is circumstanc'd the Only Assistance that can be given them is by furnishing them with Guns, Powder, Lead, &^{ca} to fight their Enemies, the Expence whereof they are apprehensive the Assembly may Scruple to repay without receiving some stronger Evidence of the Necessity of its being advanc'd than Col^{o} Johnson's Letter to the Governor of Another Province; That upon the Whole they cannot advise the Governor either to advance his money or to call the Assembly together on this Occasion, but to wait until He receive a more authentick Application from the Indians themselves than has hitherto been made to him.

MEMORANDUM.

The following Persons were appointed Justices of the Peace and of the Common Pleas in the County of Cumberland, by a Commission bearing Date the Tenth Day of March, 1749, vizt: Samuel Smith, William Maxwell, George Croghan, Robert Dunning, Mathew Dill, Benjamin Chambers, William Trent, William Allison, Hermanus Alricks, John Miller, Robert Chambers, John Finley, and Thomas Wilson.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday, 31st July, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esq., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,	Samuel Hassell,	Esquires.
Robert Strettell,	Joseph Turner,	
Thomas Hopkinson,	Richard Peters,	

Conrad Weiser, Indian Interpreter

The Minutes of the preceeding Council were read and approved.

The Governor laid before the Board a Message from the Chiefs of the Four Nations of the Twightwees, which was spoke to Mr. Hugh Crawford, Indian Trader, in one of the Twightwee Towns on the Owabach, where he was trading last Winter, and which he put down in Writing. Mr. Crawford added that though he was order'd to deliver it to the Governor of Pennsylvania, and the Traders of that Province only were mentioned, yet the Message was to all his Majestic's Governors, and the Invitation to the Traders of all the English Provinces.

"*A Message from the Twightwees, sent by Mr. Hugh Crawford to the English Governors, tho' only delivered to the Governor of Pennsylvania.*

"The Four Miamy Nation of Indians (Part of whom were at Lancaster last Year) desir'd Hugh Crawford to acquaint the Governor, James Hamilton, Esquire, That last July about Two Hundred French and Thirty-Five French Indians came to their Towns, in order to perswade them to return back to the French Settlements from whence they came, or if fair means would not prevail with them they were to take them away by Force; but the French finding that they were resolved to adhere to the English, and perceiving their Numbers to be great, were discouraged from using any Hostile Measures, and began to be afraid least they should themselves be cut off. The French brought them a Present consisting of Four Half Barrels of Powder, Four Bags of Bullets, and Four Bags of Paint, with a few Needles and a little Thread, which they refused to accept of, whereupon the French and their Indians made the best of their Way off for Fear of the worst, leaving their Goods scattering about. But at the Time of their Conference the French upbraided the Indians for joining the English, and more so for continuing in their Interest, who had never sent them any Presents, nor even any Token of their Regards to them.

"The Indians further desired Hugh Crawford to assure the Governors of their steady Friendship to the English, which they hoped would last whilst the Sun and Moon ran round the World.

"The Indians send by Hugh Crawford to the Governor Four

Strings of Wampum to confirm their Message, and Two Strings more that the Traders of Pennsylvania may be encouraged by him to go out and deal with them, and they earnestly request the Favour of an Answer from the Governors by the said Hugh Crawford.

"HUGH CRAWFORD.

"29th May, 1750."

The Governor laid before the Council a Conference held with the Indians by Mr. Peters at Mr. Croghan's on Thursday the 7th of June, 1750, which was order'd to be entred:

"At a Conference held with the Indians at Mr. Croghan's on Thursday the 7th of June, 1750, by Mr. Peters.

"PRESENT:

"RICHARD PETERS, Esquire, Secretary.

"George Croghan, "Mathew Dill, "Hermanus Alricks, "William Trent, "George Stevenson,	Esquires.	Andrew Montour, Cana-ja-chanah, als. Broken Kettle, Hatchin-hatta, Cadsedan-hiunt, Chiefs of the Seneca Nations settled at Ohio.

"Cana-ja-chanah spoke as follows:

"'Brethren:

"'We have been sent for by Capt Cressap and are now upon our Road to his House. Meeting with Settlements of White People as we came along from Allegheny, we asked why they settled so far back, and whether the Six Nations had sold that Land to Pennsylvania, but received from them no satisfactory Answer. As we came among the Inhabitants we were told that the Lands were not sold by the Six Nations, and that the Secretary had been turning the White People off and was at Mr. Croghan's, whereupon we came here to inquire if this be true; and as we find it is, We return the Government Thanks for their Care of our Lands.

"'We were sent from Ohio about Six Years ago to Canada to desire the French to supply us with Goods, and they could not supply Us. When we returned our Council determined to send a String of Wampum to the Governor of Pennsylvania to desire that the English Governors would send their Traders with Goods among us, which String was sent by James Lowry; to which we have received no answer. Therefore We present You with this String to know whether that was delivered or any answer ever given to it.'

"A String of Wampum.

"'Brother:

"'The Six Nations come down every Year to sell Land, and we

are Part of the Six Nations, live at Allegheny and hunt there. They sell Lands and give us no account of the Value; therefore we are sent by the Ohio Council to desire our Brother the Governor to recomend it to the Six Nations that when any Lands shall be sold we may have Part of the Value.

"'We are now become a stronger Body than when We received the Present from our Brothers the Governors of Virginia and Pennsylvania, and have got many to join us, and are become a great Body, and desire to be taken notice of as such; and for this Purpose Our Nations by Us present this

"'Belt of Wampum.

"'Tho' We have been sent for Capt Cressap, yet if it be to buy Land of Us We shall have nothing to say to that, as it has not been given us in Charge by our Council; but if it should be for any thing else, perhaps Trade, now we see you we would know your opinion about it.'

"The Secretary answered:

"'I am glad I happen'd to be here, and shall consider your Message and give you such an Answer this Afternoon as I can, tho' whatever I say will be only my private Sentiments."

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IN THE AFTERNOON.

Present as before.

"'Brethren:

"'I shall give your Belt to the Governor and faithfully relate what was said to me at the Delivery of it, and doubt not but you will receive his Honour's Answer in a little Time.

"'As Trade is of a private Nature, the Indians, since you ask my Advice, ought to buy their Goods where they can be best served. The People of Maryland and Virginia who deal in this Trade may serve You as well as any Others from Pennsylvania or elsewhere, and I advise you by all Means to go to Capt Cresap's and to cultivate a good Understanding with every body who can supply You with Goods, for it is equal to this Government from whence the Indians are supplied so that there be a good Harmony kept up between them and all the King's Subjects. It is no Part of my Business to give You Advice, but I cannot help repeating to You my Sentiments that you do well to trade with the good People of Virginia and Maryland as well as with those of Pennsylvania, and to give them the Preference if you find they treat You better than our People; And as I am now at the House of an Indian Trader, I charge You, Mr. Montour, to tell them truly what I say, and that it will be agreeable to the Proprietaries and this Government that the Indians trade wherever they can be best supplied.

"'In a Conversation after the Conference The Indians desired Andrew to relate to me the particulars which passed about the Invitation of Cressap, viz., that last Fall Barny Currant, a hired Man of Mr. Parker, brought them a Message from Cressap to let them know that he had a Quantity of Goods, and from the true Love that he bore to the Indians he gave them, viz., Seneca George, Broken Kettle, and the Stone, an Invitation to come and see him; that he intended to let them have his Goods at a low rate—much cheaper than the Pennsylvania Traders sold them; and notwithstanding the People of Pennsylvania always told them they were Brethren and had a great Value for them, yet this only come from their Mouth and not from their Heart, for they constantly cheated them in all their Dealings, which he Coll° Cressap was very well acquainted with, and taking Pity of them he intended to use them in another manner, and mentioned the rates that he and Mr. Parker would sell their Goods to them at, which is cheaper than the first Cost be they any where imported, viz.: A Matchcoat for a Buck, a Strowd for a Buck and a Doe, a pair of Stockings for two Racoons, twelve Bars of Lead for a Buck, and so on in Proportion.'"

Then was read Mr. Peters' Report of the Proceedings of the Magistrates of Cumberland County against the Trespassers over the Blue Hills, and Mr. Weiser saying it was a just and true Account, and desiring it might be received as his own in the several Transactions wherein he was personally concerned, it was order'd to be enter'd:

"*To the Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware,*

"*The Report of* RICHARD PETERS, Esquire, *Secretary of the Province of Pennsylvania, of the Proceedings against sundry Persons settled in the unpurchased Part of the Province aforesaid:*

"May it Please your Honour:

"Mr. Weiser and I having received your Honour's Orders to give Information to the proper Magistrates against all such as had presum'd to settle and remain on the Lands beyond the Kittochtinny Mountains not purchased of the Indians, in Contempt of the Laws repeatedly signified by Proclamations, and particularly by your Honour's late one, and to bring them to a legal Conviction, least for want of their Removal a Breach should ensue between the Six Nations of Indians and this Province, We set out on Tuesday the fifteenth Day of May last for the new County of Cumberland, where the Places on which the Trespassers had settled lay.

"At Mr. Croghan's we met with five Indians, three from Shamokin, two of which were Sons of the late Shickcalamy, who transact

the Business of the Six Nations with this Government, two were just arrived from Allegheny, viz., one of the Mohock's Nation called Aaron, and Andrew Montour the Interpreter at Ohio. Mr. Montour telling us he had a Message from the Ohio Indians and Twightwees to this Government, and desiring a Conference, one was held on the eighteenth of May last in the Presence of James Galbraith, George Croghan, William Wilson, and Hermanus Alricks, Esquires, Justices of the County of Cumberland, and when Mr. Montour's Business was done we, with the Advice of the other Justices, imported to the Indians the Design we were assembled upon, at which they expressed great satisfaction.

"Another Conference was held at the Instance of the Indians in the Afternoon, in the Presence of Mr. Galbreth and Mr. Croghan, before mentioned, wherein they expressed themselves as follows:

"'Brethren: We have thought a great deal of what you imparted to us, that ye were come to turn the People off who are settled over the Hills; we are pleased to see you on this occasion, and as the Council of Onondago has this Affair exceedingly at Heart, and it was particularly recommended to us by the Deputies of the Six Nations when they parted from us last Summer, we desire to accompany you, but we are afraid, notwithstanding the Care of the Governor, that this may prove like many former Attempts—the People will be put off now and next Year come again; and if so, the Six Nations will no longer bear it, but do themselves Justice. To prevent this, therefore, when you shall have turned the People off we recommend it to the Governor to place two or three faithful Persons over the Mountains who may be agreeable to him and us, with Commissions impowering them immediately to remove every one who shall presume after this to settle there, until the Six Nations shall agree to make Sale of their Land.' To enforce this they gave a String of Wampum and received one in return from the Magistrates with the strongest assurances that they would do their Duty.

"On Tuesday the twenty-second of May, Mathew Dill, George Croghan, Benjamin Chambers, Thomas Wilson, John Finley, and James Galbreth, Esquires, Justices of the said County of Cumberland, attended by the Under Sheriff, came to Big Juniata situate at the Distance of twenty-five miles from the mouth thereof and about ten Miles North from the Blue Hills, a Place much esteemed by the Indians for some of their best hunting Ground, and there they found five Cabbins or Log Houses, one possessed by William White, another George Cahoon, another not quite finished in Possession of David Hiddleston, another possessed by George and William Galloway, and another by Andrew Lycon; of these Persons William White, George and William Galloway, David Hiddleston and George Cohoon, appeared before the Magistrates, and being asked by what Right or authority they had possessed themselves of those Lands and erected Cabbins thereon, they replied by no Right or Autho-

rity but that the Land belonged to the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania. They then were asked whether they did not know they were acting against the Law and in Contempt of frequent notices given them by the Governor's Proclamation. They said they had seen one such Proclamation and had nothing to say for themselves but craved Mercy. Hereupon the said William White, George and William Galloway, David Hiddleston and George Cohoon, being convicted by the said Justices on their view, the Under Sheriff was charged with them and he took William White, David Hiddleston, and George Cohoon in Custody, but George and William Galloway resisted and having got at some Distance from the Under Sheriff they called to Us, "You may take our Land and Houses and do what you please with them, we deliver them to you with all our Hearts, but we will not be carried to Goal."

"The next morning being Wednesday the twenty-third of May, the said Justices went to the Log House or Cabbin of Andrew Lycon, and finding none there but Children, and hearing that the Father and Mother were expected soon, and William White and others offering to become security jointly and severally, and to enter into Recognizance as well for Andrews' Appearance at Court and immediate removal as for their own. This Proposal was accepted, and William White, David Hiddleston, and George Cohoon enter'd into a Recognizance of One Hundred Pounds and executed Bonds to the Proprietaries in the Sum of Five Hundred Pounds, reciting that they were Trespassers and had no manner of Right and had delivered Possession to me for the Proprietaries, Then the Magistrates went to the Log House or Cabbin of George and William Galloway (which they had delivered up as aforesaid the Day before, after they were convicted and were flying from the Sheriff) all the Goods belonging to the said George and William were taken out and the Cabbin being quite empty I took Possession thereof for the Proprietaries, and then a conference was held what should be done with the empty Cabbin, and after a great Deliberation all agreed that if some Cabbins were not destroyed they would tempt the Trespassers to return again, or encourage others to come there should these Trespassers go away, and so what was doing would signify nothing since the Possession of them at such a Distance from the Inhabitants could not be kept for the Proprietaries, and Mr. Weiser also giving it as his firm Opinion that if all the Cabbins were left standing the Indians would conceive such a contemptible Opinion of the Government that they would come themselves in the Winter, murder the People and set the Houses on Fire; On these Conditions the Cabbin by my Order was burnt by the Under Sheriff and Company.

"Then the Company went to the House possessed by David Hiddleston, who had enter'd into Bond as aforesaid, and he having voluntarily taken out all the Things which were in the Cabbin and left me in Possession, that empty and unfurnish'd Cabbin was likewise set on Fire by the Under Sheriff by my Order.

"The next Day being the twenty-fourth of May, Mr. Weiser and Mr. Galbreth, with the Under Sheriff and myself, on our Way to the mouth of Juniata called at Andrew Lycon's, with Intent only to inform him that his Neighbours were bound for his Appearance and immediate Removal, and to caution him not to bring himself or them into Trouble by a Refusal; But he presenting a loaded Gun to the Magistrates and Sheriff said he would shoot the first man that dar'd to come nigher. On this he was disarm'd, convicted, and committed to the Custody of the Sheriff. This whole Transaction happened in the Sight of a Tribe of Indians who by Accident had in the Night-time fix'd their Tent on that Plantation, and Lycon's Behaviour giving them great Offence the Shickcalamies insisted on our burning the Cabbin or they would burn it themselves. Whereupon, when every thing was taken out of it (Andrew Lycon all the while assisting) and Possession being deliver'd to me, the empty Cabbin was set on Fire by the Under-Sheriff and then Lycon was carried to Gaol. Mr. Benjamin Chambers and Mr. George Croghan had about an hour before separated from us, and on my meeting them again in Cumberland County, they reported to me that they had been at Sheerman's Creek or Little Juniata, situate about six Miles over the Blue Mountains, and found there James Parker, Thomas Parker, Owen McKeeb, John McClare, Richard Kirkpatrick, James Murray, John Scott, Henry Gass, John Cowan, Simon Girtee, and John Kilaugh, who had settled Lands and erected Cabbins or Log Houses thereon; and having convicted them of the trespass on their own View, they had bound them in Recognizances of the Penalty of One Hundred Pounds to appear and answer for their Trespasses on the first Day of the next County Court of Cumberland to be held at Shippensburgh; and that the said Trespassers had likewise enter'd into Bonds to the Proprietaries in Five Hundred Pounds Penalty to remove off immediately with all their Servants, Cattle, and Effects, and had delivered Possession of their Houses to Mr. George Stevenson for the Proprietaries Use; and that Mr. Stevenson had order'd some of the meanest of those Cabbins to be set on Fire, where the Families were not large nor the Improvements considerable.

"On Monday, the twenty-eighth of May, we were met at Shippensburgh by Samuel Smith, William Maxwell, George Croghan, Benjamin Chambers, Robert Chambers, William Allison, William Trent, John Finley, John Miller, Hermanus Alricks, and James Galbraith, Esquires, Justices of Cumberland County, who informing us that the People in the Tuscoraro Path, in the Big Cove, and at Aucquick would submit, Mr. Weiser most earnestly pressed that he might be excused any further Attendance, having Abundance of necessary Business do to do at Home; and the other Magistrates, tho' with much Reluctance, at last consenting, he left us.

"On Wednesday the thirtieth of May, the Magistrates and

Company being detain'd two Days by Rain, proceeded over the Kittochttinney Mountains and enter'd into the Tuscoraro Path, or Path Valley, thro' which the Road to Allegheny lies. Many Settlements were found in this Valley and all the People were sent for, and the following Persons appear'd, viz.: Abraham Slack, James Blair, Moses Moore, Arthur Dunlap, Alexander McCartie, David Lewis, Adam McCartie, Felix Doyle, Andrew Dunlap, Robert Wilson, Jacob Pyatt, Jacob Pyatt, Junior, William Ramage, Reynolds Alexander, Samuel Patterson, Robert Baker, John Armstrong, and John Potts, who were all convicted by their own Confession to the Magistrates of the like Trespasses with those at Sheerman's Creek, and were bound in the like Recognizances to appear at Court, and Bonds to the Proprietaries to remove with all their Families, Servants, Cattle, and Effects; and having all voluntarily given Possession of their Houses to me, some ordinary Log Houses to the Number of eleven were burned to the Ground—the Trespassers, most of them chearfully and a very few of them with reluctance carrying out all their Goods. Some had been deserted before and lay waste.

At Aucquick Peter Falconer, Nicholas Delong, Samuel Perry, and John Charleton, were convicted on the view of the Magistrates, and having enter'd into the like Recognizances and executed the like Bonds, Charleton's Cabbin was burnt and Fire set to another that was but just begun, consisting only of a few Logs pil'd and fastened to one another.

"The like Proceedings at Big Cove against Andrew Donaldson, John Macclelland, Charles Stuart, James Downy, John Macmean, Robert Kendell, Samuel Brown, William Shepperd, Roger Murphy, Robert Smith, William Dickey, William Millican, William Macconnell, Alexander Macconnell, James Campbell, William Carrell, John Martin, John Jamison, Hans Patter, John Maccollin, Adam Macconnell, James Wilson, and John Wilson, who coming before the Magistrates were convicted on their own Confession of the like Trespasses as in the former Cases, and were all bound over in the like Recognizances and executed the like Bond to the Proprietaries. Three waste Cabbins of no value were burnt at the North End of the Cove by the Persons that claim'd the right to them.

The Little Cove and Big and Little Conolloways being the only Places remaining to be visited, as this was on the Borders of Maryland the Magistrates declin'd going there, and departed to their Homes. The next Day several of the Inhabitants of the Little Cove came to me at Philip Davies and gave me a Petition addressed to the Governor, purporting That they were settled to the North of the Temporary Line in the Province of Pennsylvania, Westward to the Place where that Line was left off, and pray'd that his Honour might suffer them to remain there till the Line should be extended

and the Purchase made of the Lands from the Indians. Finding the Petition signed only by a few I returned it, telling them when it was signed by more if it should appear to me that they were North of the Temporary Line I would recommend their Case to the Governor, but that if they were settled to the South of the Temporary Line they were in the Jurisdiction of Maryland and this Government would have nothing to do with them, adding that what had been done was solely with a View to prevent an Indian War, and was undertaken as much to serve the neighbouring Colonies as our own; That there was a good Harmony subsisting between the Governments of Pennsylvania and Maryland, and I hop'd it would always continue, and recommended it to them earnestly not to have Recourse to this Government if they were to the South of the Line, or if they were really to the North of it that they would give no Umbrage to Maryland, but behave friendly and be sure to avoid creating any Cause of Complaint from the Governor of Maryland.

"I have truly related the several Matters of Fact in the Order they were done by the Magistrates as well as myself, but I should not do Justice to myself or Mr. Weiser, in whom your Honour placed the same Confidence and whom I principally consulted about the mode of executing your Commands, if I should close my Report here without giving the History of these settlements, and shewing upon what solid and just Reasonings our Proceedings were founded. Your Honour will therefore indulge me in laying this Matter particularly before you, that it may appear we have acted a right and dutiful Part to the Government and a kind and affectionate Part to these indiscreet People.

"About the year 1740 or 1741, one Frederick Star, a German, with two or three more of his Countrymen, made some small settlements at the very same Place where we found William White, the Galloways, and Andrew Lycon, which were discovered by the Delawares at Shamokin to the Deputies of the Six Nations as they came down to Philadelphia in the Year 1742, to hold a Treaty with this Government, and they were so disturbed at it as to enquire with a peculiar Warmth of Governor Thomas if these People had come there by the Orders or with the Privity of the Government, alleging that if it was so this was a Breach of the Treaties subsisting between the Six Nations and the Proprietor William Penn, who in the most Solemn Manner had engaged to them not to suffer any of the People to settle Lands till he had purchased them from the Council of the Six Nations. The Governor, as he might with great Truth disown any knowledge of these Persons' Settlements, and on the Indians insisting that they should be immediately thrown over the Mountains, he promised to issue his Proclamation, and if this had no effect to put the Laws in Execution against them. The Indians in the same Treaty publickly express'd very severe Threats against the Inhabitants of Maryland for settling Lands for which

they had received no Satisfaction, and said if they would not do them Justice they would do Justice to themselves, and would certainly have committed Hostilities if a Treaty had not have been set on Foot between Maryland and the Six Nations under the Mediation of Governor Thomas, at which the Indians consented to sell the Lands and receive a valuable Consideration for them, which put an End to the Danger.

"The Proprietaries were then in England, but observing on perusing the Treaty with what asperity they had expressed themselves against Maryland, and that the Indians had just Cause to complain of the Settlements at Juniata so near Shamokin, they wrote to their Governor in very pressing Terms to cause those Trespassers to be immediately removed; and both the Proprietaries and Governor laid their Commands on me to see this done, which I accordingly did in June, 1743, the Governor having first given them Notice by a Proclamation served upon them.

"At that time none had presumed to settle at a Place called the Big Cove (having this Name from its being enclosed in the Form of a Bason by the furthermost Range of the Kittochtinny Hills and the Tuscoraro Hills, which last end here and lose themselves in other Hills). This Big Cove is about five miles North of the Temporary Line, and not far to the West of the Place where the Line terminated. Between the Big Cove and the Temporary Line lies the Little Cove, so called from being likewise encircled with Hills; and to the West of the Little Cove towards Patowmec lie two or three other Places called the Big and Little Conolloways, all of them situate on the Temporary Line, was it to be extended towards Patowmec. In the Year 1741 or 1742 Information was likewise given that People were beginning to settle in these Places, some from Maryland and others from this Province. But as the two Governments were then not on very good Terms, the Governor did not think it proper to take any other Notice of these Settlements than to send the Sheriff to serve his Proclamation on them, tho' it gave ample Occasion to lament the vast Inconveniences which attend unsettled Boundaries. After this the French War came on, and the People in those Parts taking Advantage of the Confusion of the Times, by little and little stole into the Great Cove, so that at the End of the War it was said thirty Families had settled there, not however without frequent Prohibitions on the Part of the Government, and Admonitions of the great Danger they run of being cut off by the Indians, as these Settlements were on Lands not purchased of them. And at the Close of the War Mr. Maxwell, one of the Justices of Lancaster County, delivered a particular Message from this Government to them, ordering their Removal, that they might not occasion a Breach with the Indians; but it had no effect.

"These were, to the best of my Remembrance, all the Places settled by the Pennsylvanians in the unpurchased Part of the

Province till about three years ago, when some Persons had the Presumption to go into the Path Valley or Tuscoraro Gap, lying to the East of the Big Cove, and into a Place called Aucquick, lying to the Northward of it, and likewise into a Place called Sherman's Creek, lying all along the Waters of Juniata, and is situate East of the Path Valley, thro' which the present Road goes from Harris' Ferry to Allegheny, and lastly they extended their Settlements to Big Juniata; the Indians all this while repeatedly complaining that their Hunting Ground was every Day more and more taken from them, and that there must infallibly arise Quarrels between their Warriors and these Settlers which would in the End break the Chain of Friendship, and pressing in the most importunate Terms their speedy Removal. The Government in 1748 sent the Sheriff and three Magistrates with Mr. Weiser unto these Places to warn the People; but they notwithstanding continued their Settlements in Opposition to all this, and as if these People were only prompted by a Desire to make Mischief, settled Lands no better, nay not so good as many vacant Lands within the purchased Parts of the Province.

"The Bulk of these Settlements were made during the Administration of President Palmer, and it is well known to your Honour, tho' then in England, that his Attention to the Safety of the City and the Lower Counties would not permit him to extend more Care to Places so remote.

"In these Circumstances Matters stood between the Indians and this Province when the Six Nations came last Summer to visit the Government on the Closing of the War, and to receive a Present in Reward of their Fidelity. At this Treaty they renewed their Complaints of the Injuries received by these Encroachments on their hunting Grounds, and peremptorily insisted on the Removal of the Intruders; and your Honour, as an Expedient to quiet them, proposed a Purchase of those Lands from the Indians, signifying to them that it would be more agreeable to you to buy them (as the Cause of Complaint principally arose there) than any other; but they absolutely refused, and instead thereof made an Offer of about two Millions of Acres on the East Side of Sasquehannah, saying the People might go and settle there, which was accepted and a Sum of Money paid them down; and thereupon a Proclamation was issued to warn the People against continuing or settling on any unpurchased Land over Sasquehannah on the severest Penalties; but this making no Impression, your Honour issued Orders to me and Mr. Weiser to effect their Removal.

"I leave it to Mr. Weiser (as he was joined with me by your Honour) to make his own Report, and shall only observe, that in all our Consultations he (who is Indian Interpreter for Virginia and Maryland as well as this Province, and must be supposed to know the Minds of the Indians the best) proceeded on this as a certain

Truth, that if we did not in this Journey entirely remove these People it would not be in the Power of the Government to prevent an Indian War; and that as the neighbouring Provinces were as much concerned in this Event as ourselves, he recommended it to the Magistrates either not to go, or to act with the utmost Spirit, and his arguments were so convincing that all the Magistrates determined to go in a Body.

"I had furnish'd myself with blank Convictions and Mittimus', settled by the Attorney General on the Act of Assembly intituled 'a Supplementary Act, &c.' and had taken his Instructions, and was determined to proceed by Conviction, Fine, and Imprisonment; but when on the very first attempt to convict and imprison the two Galloways fled from the Sheriff, it then appeared very plain to every body that this Method would not answer, and that if the Trespassers, who were more numerous in other Parts, should believe they were to be carried to be Prison, they would either unite and with a superior Force resist the Magistrates, or they would flee from Justice; and, in short, that the whole Design must infallibly miscarry.

"And it was remembered that in a similar Case on Complaint of the Indians in the Year 1721, the Magistrates residing in that Part of the Province did, by order of the then Governor, burn and destroy the Houses and Habitations of certain Settlers on Lands on the West side of Sasquehannah without Right. On this the Persons in Custody were told that they should deliver Possession of their Places to me, and become bound in a Bond to the Proprietaries in Five Hundred Pounds, conditioned to move off with all their Cattle, &c. and that in the Condition they should acknowledge they had given Possession to me for the Proprietaries, and were told at the same time that some Cabbins must be burnt. With this they were satisfied, and chearfully executed the Bonds, and expected that as their Cabbins did now belong to the Proprietaries the Person in Possession for them might do what he pleased with them, and that some, if not all, would be destroyed.

"At the Path Valley, and indeed at all other places, the Offenders were got together and were told by the Magistrates before hand what was intended to be done and that all the new settled Cabbins would be burnt. After they were told this they executed the Bonds, thereby putting me into Possession, and very chearfully and voluntarily took everything out of their Log Houses and assisted in burning them. In truth, all submitted in every Place except the two Galloways and Andrew Lycon; and even the two Galloways came voluntarily after their Cabbin was burnt and surrendered their Persons and entered into Bonds, and expressed Satisfaction at what had been done to their Cabbin, saying That if the Indians were determined they should not stay there it was better to be away directly, as it was Summer Time and mild weather.

Finding such a general submission, and verily believing the Evil would be effectually taken away, there was no Kindness in my Power which I did not do for the Offenders, giving them Money where they were poor, and telling them they might go directly on any Part of the two Millions of Acres lately purchased of the Indians; and where the Families were large, as I happened to have several of my own Plantations vacant I offered them to stay on them Rent free till they could provide for themselves; then I told them that if after all this Lenity and good Usage they would dare to stay after the Time limited for their Departure, no mercy would be shewed, but that they would feel the whole Rigour of the Law.

"It may be proper to add, that the Cabbins or Log Houses which were burnt were of no considerable Value, being such as the Country People erect in a Day or two, and cost only the Charge of an Entertainment.

"Thus I have given your Honour a full Relation of this whole Transaction, humbly hoping the Part I have acted therein will meet with your Approbation, and that it will have the desired good Effect in removing the Trespassers and prevent their returning to their Settlements, and any future Clamours or Complaints from the Indians on that Head, and am

"Your Honour's most obedient humble Servant.

"RICHARD PETERS.

"PHILADELPHIA, July 2d, 1750."

The Governor was inform'd by Mr. Montour that two or three Traders had been killed within these two Years by the Indians; that the Murderers were not under the least Censure for them, and that the Traders, contrary to their Duty, and to the manifest danger of the Lives of his Majestie's Subjects, had made no complaint to his Honour of these Murders; that he cou'd not tell whether the Facts were committed in Virginia or this Province, but in whichever Province if no notice was taken of it by this Government, it might occasion the shedding of abundance of innocent Blood, and prove of fatal Consequence; whereupon his Honour drew up the following Message, and gave it in charge to Mr. Montour to deliver it, and to observe all the Forms and Ceremonies used in delivering such Messages, so that the Complaint might go with the greatest Force; and if any Expression be omitted necessary and usual on such occasions that he should supply it:

"*To the Indians of the Six Nations, Shawonese, Delawares, and others living at Ohio.*

"Brethren:

"I was surprised by some of my People who lately came from Ohio with the News that two or three of them had been killed by you within these few Years, and that no manner of notice was taken

of the Murders by you. You must be sensible that to see the Blood of our own People is aggravating and is sometimes of dangerous Consequence, if proper care be not taken by the wise men of the Place where it is shed. I must, therefore, charge you to make a strict enquiry what occasioned the Blood of my People, for you cannot expect, according to the Law of Nations, that I can treat with you on friendly terms till you have brought the Murderers to Justice. I have been informed that some of you said one of the persons killed was a Virginian, and this would not draw on you the anger of the Government of Pennsylvania, but I must tell you that to hurt or kill any of the Inhabitants of that Province will give us equal concern, equal offence, as if it was one who lived in my Government, we are all one People—there is no difference between us, and if any one be hurt all ought to resent it, and will do it you may depend upon it."

A String of Wampum.

The Governor then laid before the Board his Answer to the Message from the Twightwees or Miamis sent by Mr. Hugh Crawford, which is enter'd in the first part of this Minute.

"*A Message from the Governor to the Twightwee Nation.*

"Brethren the Twightwees or Miamis:

"I have received Four Strings on Behalf of Four of your Nations by Mr. Hugh Crawford, and your Message purporting that a Number of French and French Indians came to your Towns last Summer, and by Perswasions and Presents, and when these were rejected by Menaces, endeavour'd to shake your friendship for us, but all to no purpose; and that you were determined to continue faithful to us and desired more traders may be sent with goods into your Country.

"I have repeated the Message that you may know what was delivered to me by Mr. Crawford, and in answer I assure you, on behalf of this and the other English Governments, to whom I shall communicate your Message, that we have a grateful Sense of your Attachment to us, and desire our Alliance may be as strong as the strongest Mountain, and endure while the Sun shines and the Rivers run. I have proposed it to some of the best of our traders to carry on commerce with you, and to sell you their Goods at as easy a price as they can afford, and by all means to cultivate a good understanding with you, and they seem willing to do it; but as your towns are at a great distance from the Six Nations, and that several of your Tribes seem still to be firmly attached to the French, the traders cannot help expressing their apprehensions of the great danger their is in being intercepted either in their passage to or return from your country; and that unless some measures be concerted to preserve the road safe and commodious for their persons and effects it will not be possible to extend their Trade into countrys

so remote to any great degree. I mention this with the more earnestness as I have lately received information that two of our traders going from the Logs' Town to the Twightwees, about three hundred miles from the first place, were either killed, taken by the French or Indians, and that a Party of French Indians have killed fourteen of our people belonging to Carolina. I say our people, for the inhabitants of Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, this Province, and New York, are all one people, and if any be obstructed, robbed, or killed, all of us are equally affected, and must resent it alike. Some other stories are likewise told us, which if true make it evident that the road is by no means safe to travel.

"We give you four Strings of Wampum in acknowledgement of your professions, and thereby assure you that we desire to bind the chain of Friendship between us as firm as it can possibly be."

Here give a string of four rows of Wampum.

"Inasmuch as the road is insecure, and the traders make a difficulty of travelling in it while it is so, we give you this belt to remove out of it every thing that renders it dangerous."

Here a belt of Wampum of eight rows.

"There is a hearty inclination in the English Governments towards all the Twightwee Nations, and it would be a pleasure to them to have an opportunity of showing you the many advantages which would accrue to you from your alliance with the English. If I receive the answer from the other Governors time enough to send it this fall I will transmit it to you, if not you may expect it early in the Spring.

"PHILADELPHIA, 27th August, 1750."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Monday, the 8th August, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Thomas Hopkinson,
William Logan, Richard Peters,
Joseph Turner, } Esqrs.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor informed the Board that on the Receit of Mr. Peters' Report of the Proceedings against the Trespassers over the Hills, he had thought proper to write a Letter to the Justices of Cumberland County, commending them for their Zeal shewed on this occasion, and recomending it to them that the Recognizances which they had taken might punctually be put in execution against

French Conquest of the Seneca Country.

Minute of the taking possession of the Country of the Iroquois, called Senecas.

On the nineteenth of July, One thousand six hundred and eighty-seven, the Troops commanded by Messire Jacques René de Brisay, Chevalier, Seigneur, Marquis of Denonville and others places, Governor and Lieutenant-General for the King throughout the whole of Canada and country of New France, in presence of Hector, Chevalier de Callière, Governor of Montreal in said country, Commanding the camp under his orders, and of Philippe Rigaud Chevalier de Vaudreuil, Commander of the King's troops, which being drawn up in the order of battle, Charles Aubert, Sieur de la Chenays, citizen of Quebec, deputed by Messire Jean Bochart, Chevalier, Seigneur de Champigny, Noroy, Verneuil and other places, Privy Councillor of the King in his counsels, Intendant of Justice, Police and Finance in all Northern France, presented himself at the head of the Army, who stated and declared that on the requisition of the said Seigneur de Champigny, he was taking possession of the village of Totiakton, as he has done of the other three villages called Gannagaro, Gannondata and Gannongarae, and of a Fort half a league distant from the said village of Gannagaro,[1] together with all the lands in their vicinity as many as they may be, and how far soever they may extend, conquered in His Majesty's name, and to that end has set up in all the said Villages and Forts His said Majesty's Arms, and has caused to be proclaimed in loud voice: *Vive le Roi*, after the said troops had beaten and routed eight hundred Iroquois Senecas, and laid waste, burnt and destroyed their provisions and cabins. Whereof, and of what precedes, the said Sieur De La Chenays Aubert has required that an Acte be granted to him by me Paul Dupuy Esquire, Councillor of the King and his Majesty's Attorney at the Provost's Court of Quebec: Done at the said Village of Totiakton, the largest of the Seneca Villages, in presence of the Reverend Father Vaillant, Jesuit, and of the Officers of the Troops and of the Militia Witnesses with me, the said King's Attorney undersigned, the day and year above mentioned. And have signed the Minute, Charles Aubert de la Chenays, J. René de Brisay, Monsieur de Dénonville, Chevalier de Callière, Fleutelot de Romprey, de Desmeloizes, de Ramezay, François Vaillant of the Society of Jesus, de Grandville, de Longueuil, Saint Paul and Dupuy.

Collated with the Original in my hands, by me the Undersigned Councillor Secretary of his Majesty, and Chief Clerk of the Sovereign Council at Quebec.

Signed PENURET.

Compared and certified according to the collated copy on paper, lying at the Secretary's Office, Castle St. Louis, Quebec, (where it remains) by the undersigned resident Royal Notary in the Prevôté of Quebec, this twenty-fifth day of July, one thousand, seven hundred and fifty.

(Signed) DULAURENS.

[1] For the location of these Seneca towns, see III., 251. — Ed.

Francois Bigot, Councillor of the King in his Councils, Intendant of Justice, police and Finance and of the Navy in the whole of New France

To all whom it may concern: We certify that Monsieur Dulaurens who has signed the Collation on the other side is Royal Notary in the Prevôté of Quebec and that credit is to be attached to his signature in his said quality. In Witness whereof, these Presents We have signed and caused to be countersigned by Our Secretary, and have had affixed thereto Our Seal at Arms. Done in Our hotel at Quebec, the first of August, one thousand seven hundred and fifty.

Signed: BIGOT.

By my Lord.
DESCHENAUX.

Establishment of the French at Niagara.

Taking possession of Niagara by Monsieur de Denonville.

JACQUES RENÉ DE BRISSAY, Chevalier Seigneur Marquis of Denonville and other places, Governor and Lieutenant-General for the King in the whole extent of Canada and Country of New France. TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This day, the last of July of the year One Thousand Six hundred and Eighty-seven, in presence of Hector, Chevalier de Callières, Governor of Montreal in the said Country and Commanding the Camp under our orders, and of Philippe Derigaud, Chevalier de Vaudreuil, Commanding the King's troops, being encamped with all the army at the post of Niagara, returning from our expedition against the Seneca villages, We do declare that being come to the camp of Niagara situate south of Lake Ontario, west of the Senecas, twenty-five leagues above them, in the angle of land East of the mouth of the River of the same name which is the outlet of Lake Erie flowing from Lakes Huron, Illinois, the Great Lake Superior and several others beyond the said Great Lake, to reiterate anew for, and in the name of, the King the taking Possession of the said Post of Niagara, several establishments having been formerly made there many years ago by the King's order, and especially by Sieur De La Salle, having spent many years two leagues above the Great Fall of Niagara where he had a Bark built which navigated Lakes Erie, Huron and Illinois for several years, and of which the stocks *(les chantiers)* are still to be seen. Moreover the said Sieur De La Salle having established quarters *(logemens)* and some settlers at the said Niagara in the year one thousand six hundred and sixty-eight, which quarters were burned twelve years ago by the Senecas, constituting one of the causes of discontent that, with many others, have obliged us to wage war against them, and as we considered that the houses we have thought fit to rebuild could not remain secure during the war, did we not provide for them, We have Resolved to construct a Fort there in which we have placed one hundred men of the King's troops to garrison the same, under the command of Sieur de Troyes, one of the Veteran Captains of His Majesty's Troops with a necessary number of Officers to command said soldiers.

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† Acte Authentique
de Discours de la part
des Six Nations Iroquoises
fait au Chateau St.
Louis de Quebec En 1748 †

11 En marge

x Embarge par Bigot
Intendant du Canada
avec sa lettre du 1er
Août 1750 x

x* En tête de la page

Aujourd'hui Deux novembre Mil Sept cents quarante huit, Deux heures de Relevée, Nous Notaires Royaux en la Prevoste de Quebec, y residents, Soussignés ayant été mandés par Monseigneur le Marquis de la Galissonniere Commandant général de la nouvelle France Et par Monseigneur Bigot, Chevalier, Conseiller du Roy en ses Conseils, Intendant de justice, Police, finances et de Marine audit pays, Nous Sommes Transportés dans la grande Salle d'audience du Chateau St. Louis de Quebec dans laquelle peu après, se sont assemblés les Deputés des Nations Iroquoises, cy après

...ssemblée d'Embleau pour le
...ssemble, à laquelle Etoient accom-
...pagnés de Sa suite le Sauvage
...officier Grand chef des trois Rivi-
...ères et Sachesprite, lequel
...nous a dit que ces Deputés
Etoient, pour la plus part,
les principaux Chefs de Lor-
te Nation, scavoir: des Esca-
...ouriens, des Onontagués
des Goyanouans, des Oneyouts
et qu'ils Etoient chargés
de parler pour les Cayoua-
...ens. A L'Instant Sont Excel-
lence Sa Ste Mr le Baron de
Longueuil Commandant ge-
néral et Surintendant suivi
d'un grand nombre d'officiers
et d'autres personnes de dis-
tinction, Et s'Etant assis,
Son Excellence le Commandant
général a dit, mes Enfans
Je vous ay appellés auprès
de moy pour vous demander
si vous Etes sujets des An-
glois, ainsy que j'ay eu de-
ux fois ils le Lieutenant et
Subalterne ce qu'ils ont mandé
Mrs. — Clinton et Shyrley
Gouverneurs de Newyork et de
Baston dont Voici les Lettres

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ou ils se Couchent quelque
Etat la Saint de la Premie-
re d'Angleterre et que sans
estre obligé d'aller en guer-
re pour le Roy Angloys quand ils
leur ordonnent: et a Lexe-
tion de deux Lettres sont
été rencontrés en original
et dont Jesus de Samarie
en ayant pris la traduction
que était aussi sur le Bu-
reau, la leure a Explique
a Sainte Cour ainsi que la
Demande de Monseigneur le
Procureur Général qui
est fait bien comprendre
Seulement ce que nous sont
a Sert plusieurs personnes
presentes qui Entendent bien
Langue.

Alors Ledits Chefs ont
Deliberé quelque Tems Entre
Eux, après Quoy Pachouitone
Chef de Sonontouan parlant
au nom de Son village et
De celuy de Sonontouan
a Dit Que Entre ces deux il n'y
avoit point de Blancs dans
tout ce Continent, Mais que
Depuis Environ cent ans, il
Leur Etoit Etably tant Fran-
cois que Anglois, Que ils Avoient

Les Commerces avec Calcut
et avec les autres Forts avant
Gol fondés, Des Prohibitions
et autres Commodités qui
leur Etoient en Bengale, Jusqu-
ici, qui les Rendoient inutiles
ici avec plaisir, S'Etablir
en Toutes Grandes choses -
sauvage, mais qui les en Rendoient
entièrement Fermes à Jouir
Seules, qui les en Rendoient
qui En Fut - Il a fini en
Disant que tout cequi
avant Eu Lieu Etoit aussi
Si tout les Malheurs qui Jus-
qu'ici par leur Desunion
avoient Eu Lieu Depuis et
même Des Tadarations
Ensuite il S'Est Levé Co-
mothac, Chef Gouvernement
qui a répété les mêmes choses
et qui a ajouté que pour
prouver que les Sikes natifs
Seroient si Etoient pour
si Fidèles de L'Angleterre, C'Etoit
que Dans cette guerre ci et
la précédente, les Anglois
les avoient Continuellement
Sollicités de prendre la Hache
contre les Français, ce qui Etoit
un effet Inconstament et
qu'ils refuseroient encore tou
jours de maintenir en fait

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avec les Anglais et les français.

Le Gouverneur a fait en sorte que tout fut ainsi au nom de toutes les nations présentes et tout fut approuvé, le tout remarqué ordonné, ce qui fut dit.

Lord Monk seul remet le Commandement général nous a requis acte de tous ces discours et des réponses faites par les dits Députés et approuvés par tous leurs Confrères Et a demandé qu'il fut donné de plusieurs fois assigné tout de tout ce qui Entendent le Sauvage, Ce qui nous lui avons octroyé pour valoir et valoir ce que de raison. Et ont lesdit Seigneur le Commandant général et lesdit Seigneur Intendant signé ces présentes avec Nous Pierre Rigaud de Vaudreuil Chevalier Chevalier de L'ordre Royal et Militaire de St Louis Lieutenant de Roy de cette et Chateau de Quebec, Et au tres officiers et personnes de distinction présents Signés/

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M. Jean Victor Varin, Commandant de la Province, ordonnateur à Montréal, Paul de Bécard Ecuyer Sieur de Granville Capitaine dans les troupes du Détachement de la Marine Entretenus dans le Canada en Kay ou en Pays, Gaspard Chaussegros Ecuyer Sieur de Lery Capitaine et Ingenieur ordinaire des Fortifications de ce Pays, Chevalier de St. Louis — Lavaltrie, Samuel Jérôme Ecuyer Sieur de Beaujeu Capitaine des dittes troupes. Et encore de Noyan après Lesquels Entendus, et les Conclusions Requisitoires, Scabot Joint de Chapt Ecuyer Sieur de la Corne ancien Capitaine des dittes troupes de la Marine en ce Pays, Pierre de Chapt Ecuyer Chevalier de la Corne ancien Capitaine des dittes Troupes, Philippe Thomas de Tonicamp Ecuyer Lieutenant des dittes troupes et Interprette susdit les Sieurs Seigneurs des hautes et basses et Moyenne Justice de la Ville Ecuyers officiers desdittes troupes, Joint Gaillebonts

et Philippe Dagneaud de la Sauvagère, Edouard et de Louis Saint Maclou Lanier et Sophie, et de Bonaventure Delaunay

(et de Delle Désirée Agnès Edouard Eugénie Edouard Lanier et Elisa Lanier)

fait et arrêté audit Plessis St. Benoist de Quibou et Jean Antoine Lanier de la Varenne au susdit domicile de Jean Baptiste Lanier de Villeneuve l'Archevêque, Notaire Royal, Garde Notte de la Varenne, Bigot, Pierre de Pandonille, Varin Pombelle, Plaintigneux de Sept Saloreux, Beaufeu, Le Chevalier de la Varenne, Pommeau, Dagneaux Doublet, Houtelet Son, Paillebaudt, Dagneaux de la Sauvage, Lallemand Et Panet et Delaunay, Notaire soussigné avec paraphes.

(Signé Panet et Delaunay, Notaire, avec paraphes.

Suivent les marques
de Lallemant

Ensuite est Ecrit

Par collation signé Juge
Greffier et Parlementaire avec
paraphes /

collationné et signé
sur l'Expedition en papier
etant au Secretariat de l'
Intendance ou elle est restée
par le Notaire Royal En la
335v Prevosté de Quebec, y residant
soussigné, ce jourd'hui trente
Avril Mil Sept cent Cinquante
Deux

Francois Bigot, Conseil-
ler du Roy en ses Conseils,
Intendant de justice Police
finances

Province of New York in America } ss.

Henry Barclay of the City of New York Rector of Trinity Church in the said City (in Communion with the Church of England as by Law Established) of full Age being duly Sworn Deposeth and Saith, That he was born in Albany, that in Quality of Missionary from the Society for propagating the Gospel in foreign parts, he resided several years at Tionnderoga, among one of the Iroquois Nations of Indians who call themselves Ganingehage, and are by the English called Mohocks. That the Deponent hath always heard and understood that by the praying Indians were meant, such of the Mohock Nation, as were Converted to the Christian Religion, and that while he lived among the said Mohock Indians, he understood from them, that they laid Claim to Lands to the Northward of Saraghtoga in the County of Albany, but how far to the Northward he does not remember to have heard from them, and that he verily believes they still make the same Claim. That he has attained some Knowledge in the Language of the Mohock Indians, That there is a word in their Language called Rotsio, which the Deponent hath heard the said Indians say, is the name of a Rock in Corlaers Lake, by the French called Champlain Lake: That the Deponent hath heard of a Rock in the said Lake by some people called Rogeo, which he verily believes is a Corrupt Spelling of the word Rotsio, and believes the same Rock to be meant by the words Rotsio and Rogeo.

Hen: Barclay

Sworn at the City of New York the 1st day of August 1750.

Before me

[illegible]

Province of New York in America } ss.

Hermanus. Rutgers of the City of New York Brewer aged about Seventy years, being duly sworn Deposeth and Saith, That he was born at Albany, where he lived till he was about sixteen years of Age; That by the Praying Indians were meant those of the Mohawk Nation who had been Converted to the principles of Christianity, and that it was always so understood in the City of Albany while the Deponent lived there. That the Praying Indians used to come to the City of Albany while he lived there, and were Instructed in the principles of the Christian Religeon by Godfrey Dellius. That about Twenty years ago Governour Montgomery or some other Governour went to Albany, to Speak to the Indians, and after he was returned, the Deponent heard that the Indians had told the Governour, that the French were settling at Crown point, which they said the French had no right to do, for the Lands belonged to them and the French had never bought those Lands of them, nor won them by the Sword.

Hermanus Rutgers

Sworn at the City of New York the 1st of August 1750.

Before me.

Ed. Holland Mayor

Province of New York } I Richard Nicholls Notary and Tabellion Publick by Royall Authority Admitted and Sworn and Residing in the City of New York in the Province of New York in America Do hereby Certifie and make known unto all to whom these presents shall come or may in any wise Concern That on the First Day of this present Month of August The Reverend Henry Barclay of this City Clerk and Hermanus Rutgers of the Said City Brewer (being both Persons unto me well known and worthy of Good Faith and Credit) were Severally Sworn upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God in the presence of me the said Notary to the truth of their Severall Depositions before Written Before Edward Holland Esqr who is Mayor of this City of New York and before whom Depositions are usually taken and Sworn, and to whose Attestations full Faith and Credit is and ought to be Given In Faith and Testimony of the truth whereof I the said Notary have hereunto Subscribed my Name and Affixed my Seal of Office in the said City of New York the Second Day of August In the Twenty Fourth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith &c. And in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty.

Richd. Nichols Not^{ris} Publ^{ris}

Know all Men by these presents that We
undernumbers Rode alias Dirke Tierk Joseph & Gedion
Sinking Indians belonging to the Mohogs Castle and
by Authority of the rest of s.d Castles doe give grant &
Transport unto Godevridus Dulles the Wood lying and
being on the East side of Hudsons River begining from
the bounds of Saraghtoge to Kolsic as also all the Little
Islands which lyes upon said Hudsons River
Containing in breadth twelve English Miles with a
Streath line from y.e River a-fores.d into the Woods
said breath to Kolsic as Our hands and Seals in
Albany the 5th day of June in the Eight year of his
Maj.tes reign William by the grace of God of England
Scotland France and Ireland King Defender of the
Faith &c Annoq.e Domini 1696.

Signed & Sealed
in the presence of
Peter Schuyler
Evert Bancker.

this is the mark of Rode
RI alias Dirke
this is the mark of Tierk
this is the mark of Joseph
this is the mark of G Gedion

I do hereby Certify the above Deed to be a true Copy of
the Record thereof In the Secretary's Office of New York
Exam.d & Comp.d therewith the 30th July 1750 p.me

P. Van Dam Dep.y

Province of New York } I Richard Nicholls Notary and Tabellion
Publick by Royall Authority Admitted and Sworn and Residing in
the City of New York in the Province of New York in America Do hereby
Certifie and make known unto all to whom these presents shall Come o
maynay wise Concern That the before Written is a true perfect and
Authentick Copy of the Record Remaining in the Secretaries Office of the
Province of New York of a Gift or Grant from Crede allies Pirck Jan
Joseph and Gidion Mohauk Indians to Godevridus Dulles and Lyon
the said Notary Carefully Compared and Examined with the said Record
And That Goldsbrow Banyar who has Signed the Certificate at the
End thereof is now Deputy Secretary of the said Province In Faith
and Testimony of the truth whereof I the said Notary have
hereunto Subscribed my Name and Affixed my Seal of Office in the said
City of New York the Second Day of August In the Twenty fourth
Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second by the Grace
of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith
And in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty

Richd. Nicholls Not. Publ. [illegible]

so remote to any great degree. I mention this with the more earnestness as I have lately received information that two of our traders going from the Logs' Town to the Twightwees, about three hundred miles from the first place, were either killed, taken by the French or Indians, and that a Party of French Indians have killed fourteen of our people belonging to Carolina. I say our people, for the inhabitants of Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, this Province, and New York, are all one people, and if any be obstructed, robbed, or killed, all of us are equally affected, and must resent it alike. Some other stories are likewise told us, which if true make it evident that the road is by no means safe to travel.

"We give you four Strings of Wampum in acknowledgement of your professions, and thereby assure you that we desire to bind the chain of Friendship between us as firm as it can possibly be."

Here give a string of four rows of Wampum.

"Inasmuch as the road is insecure, and the traders make a difficulty of travelling in it while it is so, we give you this belt to remove out of it every thing that renders it dangerous."

Here a belt of Wampum of eight rows.

"There is a hearty inclination in the English Governments towards all the Twightwee Nations, and it would be a pleasure to them to have an opportunity of showing you the many advantages which would accrue to you from your alliance with the English. If I receive the answer from the other Governors time enough to send it this fall I will transmit it to you, if not you may expect it early in the Spring.

"PHILADELPHIA, 27th August, 1750."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Monday, the 8th August, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Thomas Hopkinson, William Logan, Richard Peters, Joseph Turner, } Esqrs.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor informed the Board that on the Receit of Mr. Peters' Report of the Proceedings against the Trespassers over the Hills, he had thought proper to write a Letter to the Justices of Cumberland County, commending them for their Zeal shewed on this occasion, and recomending it to them that the Recognizances which they had taken might punctually be put in execution against

all of the Trespassers which should incur the forfeiture, to the end that all persons might hereafter be deterr'd from such illegal and dangerous Settlements; And that in answer to his letter he had received one from the said Magistrates wrote at their Court held last week at Shippensburg, which with some Informations and Petitions he ordered to be read and enter'd:

A Letter from the Justices' of Cumberland County to the Governor.

"CUMBERLAND, July 25th, 1750.

"Honoured Sir:

"Your favor of the 13th instant we have received with the Recognizances of the Trespassers on the unpurchased Lands. We shall proceed to return the Recognizances of such of them that have not removed agreeable to their Promises and Bonds. The Recognizances of such of them as have removed off the Lands we humbly judge it most prudent not to return. Inclosed we send you a letter which we received from the Inhabitants of the Great Cove—think it inexpedient for us to determine in a matter of such importance; but in the mean time we have written an answer to them, a Copy whereof we also send.

"We are credibly inform'd that Mr. Delany at last Court held at Frederick's Town, speaking of the Conduct of our Government towards the Trespassers on the uupurchased Lands to the Northward of the Kittochtinny Hills, said in Public Company 'that if the people of the Great and little Coves would apply to Maryland they might have Warrants for their Lands, and if those of the Tuscoraro Path Valley would apply to Virginia he did not doubt but they might obtain Rights there.' We are determined to take the Depositions of those who give us such like Informations for the future. Whatever is our duty to do in this or any other publick affair we humbly assure your Honour we shall always be ready to do to the best of our knowledge. We wait for instructions in these difficult matters, and in the mean time beg leave to subscribe ourselves

"Your Honour's most obedient and most humble Servant,

"SAM[L] SMITH.

"By order of the Justices."

—

Copy of the unsign'd Paper mention'd in the above Letter.

"To whom it may concern—this from the Inhabitants of the Great Cove: This is to acquaint your Honours the great difficulty that we labour under, as we always was subject to the Government of Pennsylvania and their Laws, and desired to live so, and put ourselves under your mercies by complying to your Authorities. Will. Shepherd was in Maryland and got a Warrant for one hundred

Acres of Land in the little Cove, and was urged to take a Warrant for his Place in the Big Cove, and might have Warrants for all the Inhabitants there, and six Years to pay the purchase of said Land on easy terms. It is our desire to make our redress to your Honours for your directions what we shall do as speedily as possible, for if we do not comply with Maryland Offers we are afraid that some of their Gentlemen will soon deprive us of any Privilege in either Province. We hope your Honours will consider our Case and send us an Answer. From your distressed Friends and humble Servants.

"GREAT COVE, July the 21st, 1750.

"To SAMUEL SMITH, Esquire, and his Brethren."

—

Copy of the letter sent by the Justices of Cumberland County to the Inhabitants of the Great Cove in answer to their unsign'd Paper.

"CUMBERLAND, July 25th, 1750.

"Gentlemen:

"We receiv'd yours of the 21st instant, to which we cannot give you a full answer, because your case lies properly before our Government and our Honourable Proprietarie's Commissioners of Property, and not before us. We have, therefore, sent your letter to our Governor, and when his answer comes to us we shall communicate it to you. As you declare in your Petition that you have heretofore been subject to the Laws of this Province, and claim the Benefits and Privileges of our good Constitution for the future, all which we think you have a right to, and as we are sensible you are settled to the Northward of the Temporary Line, we make no doubt but the Governor, considering your Petition, will be of our opinion; and in the mean time any Services in our power you may expect from,

"Gentlemen, your assured Friends.

"To the Inhabitants of the Big Cove, In Pennsylvania."

"*The Petition of the Settlers of the Little Cove on the Temporary Line,*

"*To the Honourable Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Esquires, true and absolute Proprietaries of the Province of Pennsylvania, &c.*

"*The Petition of the Subscribers, Inhabitants of small Tracts of Land situate Westward of the Kittochtinny or Blue Hills, at a Place known by the Name of the Little Cove and Conolloway's Creek, humbly sheweth:*

"*Whereas,* sundry Inhabitants of the Province of Maryland (some

of 'em vested with Authority) divers times within these three Years past have attempted to survey and take possession of the aforesaid Tracts, being at or near where the Temporary Line when extended will run, as we believe; We, therefore, willing to live under the Protection of the good Constitution and Government of the Province of Pennsylvania, have hitherto prevented the various Attempts of the People of Maryland, and have presumed to seat ourselves, and have made small improvements on the said Lands.

"As we have done this purely to defend it from the People of Maryland, and not in Contempt of the Laws of the Province of Pennsylvania nor the Governor's Proclamation, we humbly pray that we may be permitted to live on our respective Improvements at least untill the Temporary Line shall be extended.

"And your Petitioners shall pray, &c.

"JOSEPH COOMBE,
his
"JOHN J HERROD,
mark
"WILLIAM JAMES,
his
"THOMAS T YATES,
mark
"LEWIS WILLIAMS,
"ELIAS STILWELL,
"JOHN MESSER,
his
"JOAN 2 NEWHOUSE,
mark
"REES SHELBY,
his
"WILLIAM O LOFTON,
mark
his
"CHARLES C WOODS,
mark
"HENRY PEIRSON,
"GEORGE REES,
his
"WILLIAM *W M* MORGAN,
mark
his
"JOHN 4 LLOYED,
mark
his
"LEVI † MOORE,
mark
"JOHN GRAHAM,
"WILLIAM LIN,
"ANDREW COOMBS,
"JOHN POOLK,
"THOMAS HUSTON."

After this the Governor order'd to be read the Draught of what he proposed to say to the Assembly, who by their Adjournment were to meet to day, and desired that if they could think of any thing else necessary to be said they would mention it, but no Member offering any thing it was order'd to be transcribed fair and delivered to the House to-morrow.

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"Finding that the Proclamation which I issued last Summer on the Complaints of the Deputies of the Six Nations against such as had presumed to settle on their unpurchased Lands had no Effect, I thought it dangerous to suffer any longer such an open Contempt of the Authority of Government, and therefore gave orders that

the Laws should be strictly put in Execution against them; And from a Report of the Proceedings of the Magistrates appointed for that Service which will be laid before you, I thought there would have been no more cause of Complaint on this Head, but by a Letter I received the last Week from the Magistrates of Cumberland County, it looks as if such as were then spar'd have been since spirited up to stay, and that there will be an absolute Necessity of taking still farther measures against them.

"The Accounts from Ohio mention that the French still continue their Threats against the Indians who carry on Commerce with our Traders; that they are frequently alarmed as if the French were approaching in a military Manner, and therefore keep themselves upon their Guard, but as nothing hostile has hitherto been attempted, I am in hopes this may blow over and the French, from the Caution and Unanimity of the Indians in our Alliance, be obliged to alter their Measures.

"I have received two or three different Messages from the Twightwees; in their last they tell me that they have withstood the Solicitations of the French, and as a Proof of their attachment to us have refused their Presents, intimating at the same time that as they take nothing from them they would be pleas'd to receive some testimony of our Regard. And I am really of opinion that since so large an addition is made to the Trade of the Province by their Means, it would be for his Majestie's as well as the Countries Service if a small Present was sent to them by some Persons of Character who go to trade in those Parts.

"When Mr. Weiser left Ohio he committed several Matters of Consequence to Andrew Montour, finding that the Indians esteemed him and placed great Confidence in him; this gave him a sort of publick Character which has put him to some Trouble and Expence, as you will see by his Accounts which I have order'd to be laid before you, and which have been perused and allowed to be true by Mr. Weiser; I therefore recommend it to you that you will be pleased to make Mr. Montour a suitable Recompence for his Services. The Indians of those Parts are not of the most prudent Behaviour, and therefore it seems necessary there should be always among them some discreet Person who by his Influence may be able to regulate their Conduct and keep them firmly attached to the British Interest, more especially at a time when the French leave no means unattempted to alienate their affection from us, and to exclude us from any share of the Benefit of trading with them. Such a Person I take Mr. Montour to be, and as he resides at Ohio he will, I am persuaded, upon a proper Recompence be always ready and willing to serve this Province to the utmost of his power.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"August 8th, 1750."

City of Albany
In the Province of
New York in America } Ss. John Henry Lydius of the said City of Albany Esq of full
Age being duly Sworn Deposeth & Saith that for about
twenty five Years past he hath frequently heard both from
the Mohawks & Cahinnawages that the Lands Northward
from Chaughtoga as far as the Rock Rojeo was the property
of the Mohawks which Rock Rojeo is Situated in the Lake
Champlain about ten Leagues to the Northward of Crown
Point Rojeo being a Mohawk word & the Name of a Mohawk
Indian who as the Indians say was Drown'd in the Lake Champlain
near that Rock long before the Christians came among
them from whence the Mohawks Call both the Rock & the Lake
Champlain Rojeo. Neither hath he ever heard of any Other
Rock call'd by the Indians Rojeo. And this Deponent
knoweth that the Lake Champlain is called by themselves French
themselves) Mer des Iroquois as well as Lac Champlain 185.
And this Deponent further Saith that he himself hath long
had a Conveyance from the Mohawks for Land five Leagues
Northward from Crown Point which the said Mohawks did
Covenant with him to be their Sole Lawfull & Proper Right
And that he hath allways heard that the Purchase made of
the Indians by Godfrey Dellius was Estemd to Extend to
the Rock Rojeo above described. And that he this Depont
having frequently enquired of the five Nations of Indians
how far their Right of Hunting extended allways heard
them Claim & Assert that they had a Right not only to the
Lands on the South Side of Cadarackui River but also to
the Land between Cadarackui & the Great River of St Lau:
rence - And that whilst he the Deponent lived in Canada
he hath heard some of the French People themselves own that
the Lands on the South Side of St Laurence River belonged
to the English & that in particular when Mr Delachasegne
Governor of the three Rivers was sent to Treat with His
Excell.y

New-York

Authentick Extract from
the Minutes of y.e Commiss.rs
of Indian Affairs on Rec.d

Excellency William Burnet then Governor of New York concerning the English Fort built at Oswego he the Deponent heard Mr Demuscaux one of the Gent[n] that had accompanied Mons[r] Delachasseyne at their Return to Canada say that Gov[r] Burnet had Convinced them that the Lands on the South Side of St Laurence River belonged to the English

And the Deponent further saith that he well knows that the Northern Branch of Hudsons River extends at least twenty Leagues further North than Crown Point Running thro' the Peninsula that divides Lake Champlain & Lake Champlain He the Deponent having been himself that far up the said Branch of the said River

John: R: Lydius

Sworn at the City of Albany
the tenth day of August 1750
Before Jacob: C: Ten Eyck Esq Mayor of the said City. In Testimony whereof he hath hereunto Set his hand & Caused the Seal of the s[d] City to be hereunto Affixed

Jacob: C: Ten Eyck

An Extract from a Speech designd to be made by Andatsago & Ungagsagigte Cahnawage Indians to his Excellcy Jonathan Belcher Esq Govr of the Massachusets Bay &c Taken the 18th of August 1732 at Northampton from the Interpretation of Joseph Kellogg Esq by John Stoddard

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"We of Cahnawage are desirous that Mr Lydius may dwell at the "Otter Creek that we may resort to him, inasmuch as he may not "be allow'd to live in Canada. Many of our People are indebted "to him & will be able at the Otter Creek to discharge their Debts

"We observe that the French have built a Fort at Niagara "& the English have built another at Oswego near to the French "Fort. And now the French have built a Fort at Crown Point, "& in answer, as the Lands at Otter Creek as we are informed "Do belong to his British Majesty why may not his Govr build "a Fort at Otter Creek as well as the French build at Crown "Point

City of Albany
in the Province of
New York } ss. John H. Lydius of the said City Esq of full Age being duely sworn maketh Oath That the Speech of which the above is an Extract was made by Andatsago & Ungagoagigte Cahnawago Indians in the Presence of John Stoddard & this Deponent & that he Carry'd the Original to his Excellcy Govr Belcher. And this Deponent further saith that the Otter Creek is distant by common Computation five Leagues northward from the Place called Crown Point where Fort St Fredrick now Stands

John H. Lydius

Sworn at the City of Albany
the tenth day of August 1760
Before Jacob C. Ten Eyck Esq Mayor of the said City In Testimony whereof he hath hereunto Sett his hand & Caused the Seal of the said City to be hereunto Affixed

Jacob C. Ten Eyck

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At a Conference Between His Excellency William Burnet Esq Capt Generall & Gov in Chief of the Provinces of New York New Jersey &c And two Sachims of each of the Six Nations Named Maquase Oneydes Tuscaroras Onnondages Cayouges & Sinnekes in Albany the 7th day of September 1726 100

His Excellency told the said Sachims that before he spoke to them in Publick he had desired to meet two Sachims of each Nation that they might acquaint him with what has passed in their Country since he was here last & that he was informed that the French are Building a Fort at Niagara; Whether they have given their Consent to it And expects to hear from them the Truth of all what has passed between them & the French in Relation to that Building or Settlement at Niagara. The said Sachims answer by Ojenwatha their Speaker

Brother Corlaer

You acquainted us Yesterday that two of each of our Nation should meet you, according to your desire are we Come.

You told us that you would ask us some news; that you had heard that the French were making a Fort at Niagara; that we should tell you the truth, what has passed between us & the French about that Building; whether One Nation or all the Nations had given their Consent; & not to conceal any thing from you. We shall now tell you the truth & not Conceal it; for we are one heart & mind with you & why should we Dissemble.

Brother Corlaer

When Mons: Longuel was last year among the Onondages the Sinnekes hearing of his being there & what his Errand was Sent a Belt of Wampum to them that in Case the French should desire to make any Building or Settlement at Niagara or at Ochswechee or Else where on their Land they should not give their Consent to it.

Monsr Longuiel told the Onondages that he had Built a Bark house at Niagara which was old & begun to decay, that he could no longer keep his Goods dry in it & was now Come to desire leave

leave to build a bigger house wherein his Goods might be safe from Rain; & said that if they consented him to build a house there & have Vessels in Cadarachqus Lake he promised that it should be for their good Peace & Quietness & for their Childrens Children that the French would protect them three hundred years.

The Onondagas being prevailed by fair Speeches & Promises rejected the Twiche Belt & gave the French leave for building at Niagara.

His Excellency asked them what they understood by his building of Niagara The french protecting them & their living in Peace for 300 years

Answer. When Monsr Longueil desired to build a house at Niagara they did not perceive the ill Consequences of it & desired him if he should not deceive them as the french had done in building a Fort at Cadarachqus which had been occasion of War and were apprehensive that after they had consented to it they would make the same use of this. He replyed on that they need not fear any mischief from this Building, they should live in Peace & Quietness 300 years

Question Whether there was not any thing else passed between them & Longueil & his Interpreter before they parted

Answer. At the Departure of Monsr Longueil he said by his Interpr that if any Quarrel should arise between him & their Brother Traders on the Lake or that any blood should be shed about the Trade as they were Christians he desired they should sit Still & Smoak their Pipes on which they gave a Belt

Question. What they Answered on that.

Answer. Monsr Longueil would not Stay for their Answer which they had ready but said as Some of their Sachims were going to Montreal they might give it there

Question. What Answer they gave the French at Montreall

Answer When they were at Canada they repeated what Monsr Longueil had desired them to Sit Still & smoke their Pipes when any Blood should be shed on the Lake between the Christians on which he gave a Belt. He told them

it was a Lye. that he had desired any such thing It was when they condoled the Death of Monsr D. Ramsay at Montreal that they demanded why they had said that if any Blood should be shed on the Cadarachqui Lake they should sit still; they added that they would not suffer any Blood to be shed nor acts of hostilities committed there on the Land & Lake belonging to them but that it should be a Path of Peace for all Christians & Indians to come & go forward & backward on Acct of Trade; that they kept firm to the Alliance & Covenant made with the English & the Peace with the French If they inclined to make Contention & fight they might end their disputes at Sea & not in their Country.

Question If the Onondages did not repent of giveing the French leave to build at Niagara

Answer That they repented as soon as they had done it & do still but Monsr Longueil has prevail'd on them by fair Speeches & Promises but find that he is double hearted.

Question If they had sent a Belt of Wampum with any of their People to Canada when they went to Condole Monsr De Ramzay's Death

Answer That they sent a Belt of Wampum from the Sinnecke Castle that the Govr of Canada should make no Settlement at Niagara nor on the Cadarachqui Lake But the Sachims who were going from Onondage to Canada being gone the express who had the Belt came too late & brought it back

Question When Monsr Longueil made the Proposition to the Onandages for leave to build at Niagara whether any Sachims of the Other Nations were Present

Answer There were 2 Cayouges Tuscarores & two young Sinnekes who were sent by an Old Sachim that was sent with a Belt by the Sinnekes but he fell Lame by the Way & Dispatch'd the two young Sinnekes with it who acquainted the Onondages with the Contents of it.

Question. Whether the Cayouges & Tuscarores gave their Consent to it

Answer That they can't blame any other Nation but their own Nation the Onondagos only

Quest:

Question What the Cayouges & Sinnanoes said when the Onondages consented the French to Build at Niagara

Answer They satt Still & heard the Onondages Speak

Question What the Six Nations did when they heard the French were at work at Niagara

Answer That the Six Nations Sent Sachims of the Sinnekes & Onondages with a Belt of Wampum to Niagara whereby they were directed to Say in their Name to the French there that they should not proceed to build further than they had Done, that they forbad them & protested against their Proceedings, because that they designd to kill & Subdue the Six Nations; & demanded what they Intend by fortifying at that Place; Tell us the Truth & do not Deceive us but be sincere as we would be to you; We shall not give you any Occasion of Breach of Peace which is between us; Gave a Belt of Wampum. —

Question. Who sent this Belt first

Answ. The Onondages

Qust. Whether the Land at Niagara belongs to the Onondages or to the Sinnekes or to all the Six Nations.

Answ. A Sinneke Sachim named Kanaharighto said the Land at Niagara belonged to their Nation particularly.

Question If the Sachims of the Other five Nations acknowledge that the Land at Niagara belongs to the Sinnekes only.

Answer They all say Yes; & not only the Land at Niagara belong'd to the Sinnekes but also the Land to wit, on the other side of Cadarachqui Lake.

Question Why the Onondages Consented to the French building at Niagara while the Land only belongs to the Sinnekes

Answer. The Onondages say it is true they have done wrong, they might better have left it alone & have left it to the Sinnekes whose Land it is. They repent of it & say that People often do what they Afterwards Repent of.

Question. Why the Onondages consented their Building without Leave of the Other Nations —

Answer.

Answer That one Nation often make a Proposition & give their Consent to a thing in name of all the Rest which if they afterwards Consent & approve of it is well; but if they disallow it was void.—

Question What the French answerd on their Belt to forbid them to build at Niagara.

Answer That the french said they could not desist from compleating the house at Niagara, being sent & ordered by the Govr of Canada to build it, & durst not desist from Building, but must proceed & finish it, having Consent from the Six Nations for the doing of it, that Jean Cocur the french Interpreter was going to Montreal & would acquaint the Governor with what they had said, that he would bring an Answer at Onondage by the latter End of Septem (when the Indian Corn was Ripe) And threw the Belt back and rejected it, by which they had Spoken & said they thought they were sent by the Governor of New York, on which they reply'd that they were not sent by the Governor but by the Sachims of the Six Nations & did not know who had given the French liberty that they did not know it, & desired that they would name the Sachims who had given them leave, on which they did not reply but said that when the house was finished thirty Soldiers would be Posted there with Officers & a Priest

+ + + Then follow some Questions & Answers on a different head + +

Then they said Brother Corlaer

You have asked us Several Questions which we have Answer'd & you have acquainted us with what news you know & now you ask if we approve of the Building at Niagara. We do not only complain against the Proceedings of the French in fortifying Niagara on our Land contrary to our Inclination & without our Consent taking us up from our chief hunting Places but we also humbly beg & desire that Your Excellency will be Pleased to write to his Majesty King George that he may have Compassion on us & to write to the King of France to Order his Govr of

of Canada to Remove the Building at Niagara for we think it very prejudicial to us all: —

City of Albany
In the Province of
New York } ss. I Jacob C. Ten Eyck Mayor of the said City do hereby Certify that what is Contain'd on this & the five Preceding Pages is a True Extract from the Minutes of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs & that I have Carefully Examin'd & Compared them together In Testimony whereof I have hereunto Set my hand & Caused the Seal of the said City to be Affixed in Albany the 6th day of August 1760.

Jacob C. Ten Eyck

Extract from the Answer of the Six Nations to his Excellency William Burnet Esqr Capt Genl & Govr in Chief of the Province of New York New Jersey &c in Albany the 13th day of September 1726

Kanakarighton a Sunicke Sachim Stood up & Said

Brother Corlaer —

You told us that you had heard that the Governor of Canada was busy building at Niagara; You asked how we did like it; If it would be no hindrance to us, & the far Indians to come & go forward & backward; If that Building was any way prejudicial to us that we should make our Complaint. We must first acquaint you that we have been at Niagara in Name of the Six Nations to Speak to the Governor of Canada & told him to desist from making any Building there.

You told us also that it was agreed between the two Crowns of Great Brittain & France that the French may not meddle with the Six Nations nor Settle on their Land; if they do, that is a Breach of an Article of the Treaty & that it is on both sides Concluded that the Indians may go on account of Trade unmolested where they Please.

We speak in Name of all the Six Nations & Come to you Howling; this is the reason for what we howl, that the Governor of Canada Incroaches on our Land & Limits thereon. Therefore do we Come to our Brother Corlaer & desire you will be pleased to write to the Great King your Master & if your King will then be c pleased to write to the King of^o France that the Six Nations desire that the Fort at Niagara may be demolished This least we give to you our Brother as a Token that you be not negligent to write to the King; The sooner, the better, & desire that the Letter may be writ very Pressing.

City

City of Albany
In the Province
of New York } ss. I Jacob C. Ten Eyck Mayor of the said City do hereby Certify
that what is Contain'd on the Other Side is a true Extract from
the Minutes of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs & that I have
Carefully Examin'd & Compared them together In Testimony
whereof I have hereunto Sett my hand & caused the Seal of the
said City to be Affixed in Albany this tenth day of August
1750

Jacob: C. Ten Eyck

Province of } I Richard Nicholls Notary and
New York } Tabellion Publick by Royall Authority Admitted and Sworn
and Residing in the City of New York in the Province of
New York in America Do hereby Certifie and make known
unto all to whom these presents shall Come or may in any
wise Concern that Jacob C. Ten Eyck who has Signed the
Certificates to the Severall Papers before Written is Mayor
of the City of Albany as Appears to me the said Notary by
the Record of his Commission now Remaining in the
Secretaries Office of the Province of New York to whose
Attestations full Faith and Credit is and ought to be Given
In Faith and Testimony of the Truth whereof I
the said Notary have hereunto Subscribed my Name and
Affixed my Seal of Office in the said City of New York the
Twenty fourth Day of August In the Twenty fourth
Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second by the
Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King
Defender of the Faith &c. And in the Year of our Lord One
Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty.

Richd. Nichols Not. Publ.

Propostion or Oration of the Onandagoes & Cayouges Sachims made in the Town hall of Albany before the Right Honble the Lord Effingham Govr of Virginia & the Coll. Tho. Dongan Govr of New York &c the 2d of August 1684 107

Brother Corlaer

Your Sachim is a great Sachim, & we are but a Small People, When the English came to Manhattans, that is New York, Aragoske which is now called Virginia, & to Taquskmanage now called Maryland they were but a Small People & we a great People & finding they were good People, we gave them Land & treated them Civilly & now Since you are a great People & we but Small you will Protect us from the French, which if you do not, we shall loose all our Hunting & Beeves. The French will have all the Beeves & are Angry with us for bringing any to the Brethren. We have put all our Land & our Selves under the Protection of the Great Duke of York the Brother of your Great Sachim who is also a Great Sachim. We have given the Susquehanna River which we won with the Sword to the Government & desire that it may be a Branch of the Great Tree that grows here whose Top reaches to the Sun under whose Branches we shall Shelter Ourselves from the French or any Other People & our Fire burns in your houses & your Fire burns with us, & we desire that it may allwayes be so, & will not that any of great Penn's People shall settle upon the Susquehanna River, for our young Folks or Soldiers are like Wolves in the Woods as you Sachim of Virginia knows, we having no Other Land to leave to our Wives & Children

We have put ourselves under the great Sachim Charles that lives over the great Lake & we do give you two White dressed Dear Skins to be sent to the great Sachim Charles that he

may

may write upon them & Put a Great Red Seal to them that we do
joyn the Susquehanna River above the Wasaghta or Falls and
all the Rest of our Land under the great Duke of York, & to
no body Else, Our Brethern his People being as Fathers to
our Wives & Children & did give us Bread when we were in need
of it & we will neither join ourselves nor our Land to any Other
Government then this, & this Proposition we desire that Corlaer
the Governor may send over to the Great ~~Lake~~ Sachim Charles
that dwells over the great Lake with this Belt of Wampum
Peag & another Smaller Belt for the Duke of York his Brother
& we give a Beaver to you Corlaer to send over this Proposition

And you great Man of Virginia meaning the Lord
Effingham Govr of Virginy, we let you know, that great Penn
Did speak to us here in Corlaers house by his Agents & desired
to buy the Susquehanna River, but we would not hearken
to him, having fastened it to this Government & therefore desire
that you would bear Witness of what we now doe & that we
Confirm what we have already done And Let your Friend
the Great Sachim that lives over the Great Lake know herof
that we being a free People uniteing ourselves to the English
it may be in our Power to give our Land to what Sachim
we Please & Doe give you one Beaver Skin

Ex^d

City of Albany
In the Province } ss. I Jacob C Ten Eyck Mayor of the said City do hereby Certify
of New York that the above is a True Copy taken from the Register of
Indian Affairs & that I have Carefully Examined & Compared them
together In Testimony whereof I have hereunto Set my hand
& Caused the Seal of the said City to be hereunto affixed in
Albany this tenth day of August 1750

Jacob C. Ten Eyck

At a Council held at the Council Chamber, Tuesday the 9th August, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,
Robert Strettell,
Thomas Hopkinson,
Richard Peters.
Samuel Hassell,
Joseph Turner,
William Logan,
} Esqrs.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approv'd.

The Governor having received a Message by Six Members that the House met yesterday according to adjournment, chose their Speaker, and desired to know when they might present him, appointed them to attend him at eleven o'Clock in the Council Chamber, and as it was now that time the Secretary was ordered to tell the House that the Governor required their attendance in this Place immediately. The House, with Isaac Norris, Esquire, at their head, attended accordingly, and Mr. Norris addressing the Governor spoke as follows: "May it please the Governor, The House of Representatives at their Meeting yesterday, agreeable to their Adjournment, found themselves under an irreparable Loss by the Death of their late Speaker, whose Knowledge in the Laws render'd him excellently well qualified for that Trust, and proceeded to the Choice of another, which Choice had fallen on him, but inasmuch as there were many Members much better qualified than he for this Trust, he pray'd the Governor would be pleased to desire the House to reconsider their Choice and appoint some fitter Person; but the Governor saying the House had made a good Choice and such as he approved, Mr. Norris proceeded, saying since the Governor would not gratify his Request, though he still thought it a reasonable one, but approved the Choice of the House, as the Privileges of the House had been claimed by the late Speaker at the Beginning of the Year, he had nothing to mention now but what was personal, to wit, that his own unwilling mistakes might be excused and not imputed to the House; to which the Governor was pleased to answer it was a Right that ought to be observed." Upon which the House withdrew.

The Governor then reminded the Council that the House in their last January Session had presented to him for his Concurrence a Bill for the regulating the Probate of Wills within this Province; that he had detained it till now, in hopes of altering it so as to make it useful, but on considering it attentively and frequently he dislik'd it exceedingly and proposed to return it with a verbal Message by the Secretary; "That the Bill abolishes long settled Modes of trying last Wills and Testaments and Jurisdictions,

established under the Royal Charter and by two Acts of Assembly, and creates new Jurisdictions, with such unlimited Powers that the Consequences to the People cannot easily be foreseen; That as the Bill now stands the Governor is apprehensive it may subvert Estates real, held by former Wills, render Purchases under future Devises precarious, and so endanger Executors and Administrators that no man can hereafter safely undertake these Trusts; That supposing the Governor and Assembly should think convenient to carry the principal Designs of the Bill into a Law, yet if his Apprehensions are well-founded the Bill will need so many Alterations and additional Clauses to avoid the Inconveniences and not incur others, that he inclines to think it a Subject proper for a time of more leisure, when the House can give it all the Attention an Affair of such Importance requires;" Which was approved and the Bill ordered to be returned accordingly.'

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Thursday the 16th August, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Joseph Turner, Richard Peters, Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor having received from his Grace the Duke of Bedford, one of his Majestie's Principal Secretaries of State, a printed Act of Parliament lately made and Entitled "An Act to encourage the Importation of Pig and Bar Iron from his Majesty's Colonies in America, and to prevent the Erection of any Mill or other Engine for Slitting or Rolling of Iron, or any Plating Forge to work with a Tilt Hammer, or any Furnace for making Steel in any of the said Colonies," The same was read, and likewise a Proclamation proposed to be published in relation thereto, which was approved.

"By the Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware:

"A PROCLAMATION.

"*Whereas*, By an Act of Parliament passed in the Twenty-Third Year of his Majestie's Reign, entituled 'An Act to encourage the Importation of Pig and Bar Iron from his Majestie's Colonies in America, and to prevent the Erection of any Mill or other Engine for slitting or rolling of Iron, or any plating Forge to work with a Tilt Hammer, or any Furnace for making Steel in any of the said Colonies,' it is enacted 'That from and after the Twenty-Fourth

Day of June, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty, every Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Commander in-Chief of any of his Majestie's Colonies in America shall forthwith transmit to the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations a Certificate under his Hand and Seal of Office, containing a particular Account of every Mill or Engine for slitting and rolling of Iron, and every plating Forge to work with a Tilt Hammer, and every Furnace for making Steel at the Time of the Commencement of this Act erected in his Colony, expressing also in the said Certificate such of them as are used, and the Name or Names of the Proprietor or Proprietors of each such Mill, Engine, Forge, and Furnace, and the Place where each such Mill, Engine, Forge, and Furnace is erected, and the Number of Engines, Forges, and Furnaces in the said Colony.' To the end, therefore, that I may be the better enabled to obey the Directions of the said Act, I have thought fit with the Advice of the Council to issue this Proclamation, hereby enjoining and requiring the Proprietor or Proprietors, or in case of their Absence the Occupiers of any of the above-mentioned Mills, Engines, Forges, and Furnaces erected within this Province, to appear before me at the City of Philadelphia on or before the Twenty-First day of September next, with proper and ample Testimonials of the Rights of such Proprietor, Proprietors, and Occupiers therein, and sufficient Proofs whether the said Mills, Engines, Forges, and Furnaces, respectively, were used on the said Twenty-Fourth Day of June or not. And I do further hereby require and command the Sheriff of every County in this Province, respectively, on or before the said Twenty-First Day of September to appear before me at the City of Philadelphia aforesaid, and then and there by Writings under their Hands and Seals to certify and make known to me every Mill or Engine for slitting and rolling of Iron, every plating Forge to work with a Tilt Hammer, and ever Furnace for making Steel which were erected within their several and respective Counties on the said Twenty-Fourth Day of June, and the Place and Places where the same were erected, with the Names of their reputed Proprietor or Proprietors, and the Occupiers of them and every of them; and whether they or any of them were used on the said Twenty-Fourth Day of June or not, as they and each of them will answer the contrary at their Peril.

"Given under my Hand and the Great Seal of the Province of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia this Sixteenth Day of August, in the Twenty-Fourth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord, George the Second, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, &c., and in the Year of our Lord 1750.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"By his Honour's Command,

"RICHARD PETERS, Secretary.

"GOD SAVE THE KING."

An Act entitled "A Supplementary Act to the Act intituled 'An Act for preventing the Exportation of Bread and Flower not merchantable, and for the new Appointment of Officers to put the said Law in Execution,'" having been delivered to the Governor by two Members for his Concurrence, it was read once over and then Paragraph by Paragraph, and agreed to, and sent by the Secretary to the House with a Message that the Governor would pass it when it should be presented to him for that Purpose.

A Message from the House in Answer to the Governor's of the eighth Instant was read.

"May it please the Governor:

"The Governor's Care in issuing his Proclamation last Summer, 'upon the Complaints of the Deputies of the Six Nations against such as had settled on their unpurchased Lands,' and the Measures he has since taken to prevent all Cause of Complaint, appear to us prudent and absolutely necessary; and we hope the Lenity shewn towards such as 'were then spared' in Commisseration of their Circumstances, and on their Bonds to remove in a very short time, may not be attended with any ill Consequences; And this we have the more Reason to expect as we are now informed the Lord Chancellor has lately given a Decree in favour of our Proprietaries which may settle the Boundaries between us and our neighboring Colony, and put an End to any ill Offices or future Quarrels between us on that Account. But should those Settlers who have been so tenderly dealt with unhappily suffer themselves to be 'spirited up to stay,' and by that means not only continue the Cause of Complaint themselves, but by their Example draw others to return to the old or any other Settlements, as this would be highly ungrateful and 'acting in open Contempt of the Government,' and might involve the whole Province in great Difficulties and themselves and their Families in Destruction, we desire the Governor world 'strictly put the Laws in Execution against them; and if any further Assistance of ours should be necessary in an Affair of such Importance to the Peace of the Province, we shall readily contribute whatever can reasonably be expected from Us.

"Tho' the 'Accounts from Ohio mention that the French still continue their Threats against the Indians who carry on Commerce with our Traders,' and 'that they are frequently alarmed as if the French were approaching in a military manner,' yet as they keep themselves upon their Guard, and 'as nothing hostile has hitherto been attempted,' we hope with the Governor 'this may blow over,' And, from the Caution and Unanimity of the Indians in our Alliance, the French may be obliged to alter their Measures.

"Ever since the Twightwees upon their earnest Sollicitations, and by the Intercession of the Six Nations, became our Allies, we have taken them under our Notice, and as such have made them Sharers

in our Presents. However, since they have withstood the Sollicitations of the French, as they engaged themselves to do by the Treaty at Lancaster, and as they have refused to receive any Presents from them in Proof of their Attachment to Us, at the same time intimating 'they would be pleased to receive some Testimony of our Regard;' and as on their Admission to our Alliance the Deputies of the Six Nations candidly informed us tho' they were numerous and worthy of our Friendship 'yet they were poor,' we are of Opinion, considering the Service they may be of to us, and 'the large Addition which is made to the Trade of this Province by their means,' it may be prudent, and accordingly we have agreed to make them some 'small Present' at this time.

"The Accounts from Andrew Montour, which have been laid before us by the Governor's Order are under our Consideration, and we think it reasonable to make him such allowance as shall appear a 'suitable Recompence for his Services.' The Esteem he is in with the Indians, the great Confidence they place in him, his Discretion and Residence at Ohio, are good Reasons for the Governor's recommending him to our Notice. Such a Person we judge must be of Use to influence their Conduct and keep them firmly attached to the British Interest. And as he is ready and willing to serve the Province to the utmost of his Power, he deserves to be encouraged, especially as the Indians of those Parts are not of the most 'prudent Behaviour, and at a Time when the French leave no Means unattempted to alienate their Affection from us, and exclude us from any Share of the Benefits of trading with them.'

"Signed by Order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"15th August, 1750."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Saturday the 18th August, 1748.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell, Joseph Turner, } Esqrs.
Thomas Hopkinson, William Logan, }
Richard Peters, }

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approv'd.

The Governor informed the Board that on receit of a Message from the House that the Flower Bill which was engross'd might be examin'd by some Members of Council, and that he would please to appoint the Time for their presenting it to him in order to be enacted into a Law, he had appointed Mr. Strettell and Mr. Peters

City of Albany
in
The Province of
New York in
America

John Groesbeck of the City of New York in the said Province Merchant of full Age maketh Oath Deposeth & Saith That Saraghtoga in the County of Albany lies on a Branch of Hudsons River which runs Northerly from the City of Albany. That there is a Carrying Place about Sixteen Miles Northerly from Saraghtoga at the End of which Lies the Wood Creek through which there is a passage all the Way by Water to Corlaers Lake called by the French Champlain Except at a Fall where the Canoes are carried a Small distance & That the Entrance into Corlaers Lake is near the French Fort at Crown Point from whence by Computation it is about forty five Miles Northerly to the Rock Rogeo which lies near the Eastern Shore of the said Lake and nearly opposite to Corlaers Island on the West Side of the said Lake That the Deponent hath been to Canada & allways heard that the said Rock is the Rock called Rogeo And the Deponent further Saith that he hath heard the Same so Call'd both by Frenchmen & Indians & knows not nor ever heard of any Other Place or Rock called Rogeo or the Name of any other Place similar to it in Pronunciation

John Groesbeck

Sworn at the City of Albany
the 10th day of Nov. 1750
Before Jacob C. Ten Eyck Esqr Mayor of
the said City. In Testimony whereof he hath hereunto Sett his hand
& Caused the Seal of the said City to be hereunto Affixed

Jacob C. Ten Eyck

City of Albany
in the Province
of New York } ss.

Hans Hanse of the said City of Albany Merch^t of full Age being duely Sworn Deposeth & Saith That Saraghtoga in the County of Albany in the s^d Province lies on that Branch of Hudsons River which runs Northerly from the s^d City. That about Sixteen Miles Northerly from Saraghtoga they leave Hudsons River & go easterly over a Carrying Place at the end of which lies the Wood Creek thro' which there is a Passage all the Way by Water into Corlaers Lake by the French called Champlain except at a Fall near the end of s^d Wood Creek where the Canoes are Carry^d a Small distance. That the entrance into Corlaers Lake is near the French Fort at Crown Point from whence it is by Computation about forty five Miles Northerly to Rock Rogee which lies towards the Eastern Shore of the said Lake. That he the Deponent hath been from Albany to Canada Sixteen or Seventeen times between the Years 1718 & 1738 & is well acquainted with s^d Rock Rogee — That he hath heard both French Men & Indians call it by that Name & hath seen the Indians as they pass'd by the s^d Rock make Offerings to it by throwing Pipes Tobacco or Other things into the Lake & Calling upon the Name Rogee. That He the Deponent hath Often heard that the Purchase made of the Indians by Godfreid Dellius extended to said Rock Rogee in Corlaers Lake & that he never heard of any Other Place called Rogee or the Name of any Other Place Similar to it in Pronunciation And the Deponent further Saith that dureing the aforesaid twenty years in which he had gon to Canada he was frequently informed by the Indians that the Head of Hudsons River lay far North from the Rock Rogee above Described & that he never yet heard any thing to the Contrary thereof

Hans Hanse

Sworn at the City of Albany
the tenth day of August 1760
Before Jacob: C. Van Eyck Esq Mayor of the said City In Testimony whereof he hath hereunto Sett his hand & Caused the Seal of the s^d City to be hereunto Affixed

Jacob. C. Van Eyck

City of Albany
In the Province of
New York } ss.

Wm Genevieve Wasse Wife of John H Lydius of the s[d] City Esq[r]
Born in Canada & an Inhabitant there till she was of the Age of
twenty Seven Years Being duely Sworn Deposeth & Saith That
while she lived in Canada she frequently heard that the English
claimed the Land on the South Side of St Laurance River & as
far North as to the River & hath heard Several of the French
People in Canada own that the English Right did extend so far And
that the Settlements on the North Side of the said River were
established long before any Settlements on the South Side

genevieve wasse Lydius

Sworn at the City of Albany
the tenth day of August 1750
Before Jacob C Ten Eyck Esq[r] Mayor of the s[d] City

In Testimony whereof he hath
hereunto Sett his hand & Caused the Seal of the said City to be hereunto Affixed

Jacob C Ten Eyck

Province of New York } I Richard Nicholls Notary and Tabellion Publick by Royal Authority Admitted and Sworn and Residing in the City of New York in the Province of New York in America Do hereby Certifie and make known unto all to whom these presents shall Come or may in any wise Concern That Jacob Glen Dyck who has Signed the Certificates to the Severall Depositions and other Papers before Written is Mayor of the City of Albany as Appears to me the Said Notary by the Record of his Commission now Remaining in the Secretaries Office of the Province of New York, and to whose Attestations full Faith and Credit is and ought to be Given. In Faith and Testimony of the Truth whereof I the Said Notary have hereunto Subscribed my Name and Affixed my Seal of Office in the Said City of New York the Twenty fourth Day August In the Twenty fourth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith &c. And in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and fifty.

Richd. Nichols Not. Publ.

New York

Authentick Papers, to
prove the Boundaries of y^e
Government of New York
Dated in August 1750.

Rec.^d with Govr Clinton's Letter
dated ye 29.th Aug.^st 1750.

Rec.^d Nov.^br ye 8.th
Read —— } 1750.

HH 114.

Papers to prove the
Boundaries of the
Government of
New York.

28.

6.

A Message from the Six Nation Indians at Ohio delivered to the Governor by Indian Mentour.

May it please your Honour

The Twightwies who were admitted into the Alliance of the English in a Treaty held at Lancaster two or three Years agoe, sent their Deputies to Allegheny last Winter with a Message addressed to the Six Nations and other Indians living on Ohio and to the several English Provinces, accompanied with this String of Wampum.

The Message delivered by the Deputies of the Twightwies was as follows.

Brethren of the Six Nations and altogether Indians living on Ohio and all the English Governors

We the Twightwies, who are now One with you, desire that the Road which has lately been opened between us, being a new one, and therefore rough, blind and not well clear, may now be made plain, and that every thing which may hinder the Passage, may be removed out of it so effectually as not to leave the least Obstruction, and We desire this may be done not only as far as where you live, but beyond you to the Place where our Brethern the English live, that their Traders whom We desire to live amongst us, and to deal with us for the future, may travel to us securely and with ease.

Brethern

We are but Young and unexperienced, you the Six Nations are our elder Brothers, and can advise us what to do on all Occasions, We therefore put ourselves under your Care, and request that you will look upon us as Children, and assist us with your Council, and We promise to follow whatever Advice you give us, for We are sensible that it will be for our good. Our Father Onontio has kept us poor and blind, but thro' your means We begin to open our Eyes and to see things at a great distance; We assure you by this String of Wampum, that We the Twightwies have entirely laid Onontio aside, and will no more be governed by his Advice, nor any longer hearken to what he shall say.

This is our settled Determination, and We give you

the

the strongest Assurances that We shall abide by it, and of this We desire you will inform the Six Nations & Delawares at Onondage, and the other Indians who are in their and your Alliance, and likewise the Governor of Canassylania, and the other English Governors.

Sir

I have it further in Charge to relate to you the Answer which the Six Nation Indians living at Ohio gave to this Message of the Brethren.

Brethren the Brethren

Harken to what We say, and consider our Answer to the first Answer, of the Nations of those Indians living in those Parts, of our Nation, the Six Nations living at Onondage, - and of the English Governors, as whom We include in this Answer.

Brethren of the Brethren Nation

You have by your Deputies desired us that We would open the new Road between us and you wider, and take care of it, every thing that can possibly hinder our travelling safely and pleasantly to one another, and that the English Traders may come more amongst you, - and further that you henceforth put yourselves under our Care, and desire We will assist you with our Council, and that you have intirely laid aside Onontio and will be no more governed by his Councils — We declare ourselves well pleased with every part of your Message, and will heartily join with you in making the Road perfectly clear and free from all Impediments, We will take you under our care, and assist you on all Occasions in the best manner. We trust your Determinations are made with the utmost seriousness & Deliberation, and that you will adhere to what you say. The English and We are firmly united together, We are all One People, and our Hands joined so that nothing can seperate them; You have joined Hands with them and We like true, but yours are as yet like the Hands of Infants, they cannot take hold of the Chain of Friendship with so much strength as those of riper Years, but We desire you to take as strong an hold of it as ever you can, and to form an Union that nothing can break through. If any Tree should fall and block up the Road between us, beware let us all put our Hands to it, and unitedly and amicably like Brethern throw it out of the Road; Don't let us act single on any Occasion, but all together, and then shall We have the more

Strength — p. f.

Sir

I am further Ordered to tell you that a Message arrived from the Twightwies just before I left Allegheny, acknowledging the receipt of the above Answer, and returning their Thanks, with Assurances that they are Confirmed in their new Engagements, and Expected soon to receive the Answer of the English Governors.

Sir

I have finished what was given me in Charge with respect to the Twightwies, but I have this something to communicate to the Governor of Pennsylvania and all the other Governors on the Continent, which was communicated to me by the Cowendachs who were called the Seventy-Nagaw Indians in conjunction with the other Indians assembled in Ohio, be pleased therefore to receive a Message sent by the Cowendachs and the other Indians.

Brethren the Governors of Pennsylvania & New York

When you were at War with Canada, We were perswaded by certain to strike the French, you have since made Peace with Canada, and We expected that We were included in that Treaty, but We do not find it so, for the French are always threatning us, and have put us into so much fear by their Menaces, that We dar not suffer our People to go into the hunting Places as before, least we should meet a Party of French, this was the Case all last Summer, and We have received intelligence from the Lake Ontario that the French in Canada are now making military Preparations, and intend to attack us this Summer.

Brethren

You ought to have included Us in your Peace, but since you do not, We now request that the English Governors would jointly apply to have us included in the Peace, that We may not be subject to the Intimidations and Resentment of the French, but be in quiet as well as you &c.

Delivered by Andrew Montour
the Eleventh Sept. 1750

Copy

Indian
Messages delivered by
Andrew Montour
11th October 1750

Pennsylvania 1750.

The Accounts from Andrew Montour, which have been laid before us by the Governor's Order, are under our Consideration, and we think it reasonable to make him such allowance as shall appear a "suitable "Recompence for his Services"; the Esteem he is in with the Indians, the great Confidence they place in him, his Discretion, and Residence at Ohio, are good Reasons for the Governor's recommending him to our Notice. Such a Person we judge must be of Use to influence their Conduct, and keep them firmly attached to the British Interest; and as he is ready and willing to serve the Province to the utmost of his Power, he deserves to be encouraged, especially as the Indians of those Parts are not of the most "prudent Behaviour, "and at a Time when the French leave no Means unattempted to alienate their Affection from us, and "exclude us from any Share of the Benefits of trading with them.

Signed by Order of the House
Isaac Norris, Speaker.

15th August 1750.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Saturday the 18th August 1750.

Present
The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor
Robert Strettell — Joseph Turner
Thomas Hopkinson — William Logan } Esquires
Richard Peters

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor informed the Board, that on receit of a Message from the House, that the Flower Bill which was engrossd might be examind by some Members of Council, and that he would please to appoint the Time for their presenting it to him, in order to be enacted into a Law, he had appointed Mr Strettell and Mr Peters to compare the Engrossd Bill with the Copy, and had likewise ordered the House to wait on him at eleven this morning, whereupon the Secretary was sent with a Message requiring their immediate Attendance.

And the House attending accordingly, the Speaker presented to his Honour, the Bill entitled A Supplementary Act to the Act, intituled, An Act for preventing the Exportation of Bread and Flower not merchantable, and for the new appointment of Officers to put the said Law in Execution; which was enacted into a Law. Then the Speaker presented the Governor with an Order on the Treasury, of Four Hundred Pounds, for his Support, for which he returnd the House his Thanks.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Wednesday the 19th September 1750.

Present
The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor
Thomas Lawrence — Samuel Hasell
Joseph Turner — Thomas Hopkinson } Esquires
William Logan — Richard Peters

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved,

The Governor having received some Intelligence of Consequence relating to the Indians, in a Letter wrote to the Secretary by Capt. Trent, one of the Justices of Cumberland County, and Partner with ..... Mr Croghan the most considerable Indian Trader, which seems to be confirmd by a Letter of the third Instant from Governor Clinton, both Letters were read and orderd to be enterd.

A Letter to the Secretary from Capt Trent

Sir

Lancaster August 18th 1750.

a few Days ago some of the Lowreys Hands came in from the Woods, they had a Frenchman in Company who says he was a French Trader, and was put in Irons and confined for disobeying the Orders

Orders of the Comander of the Fort where he traded, (the Fort lyes betwixt De Troit and the Picts Country) by the Assistance of his Friends he made his Escape to the Picts that are in Friendship with us, some of which was for putting him to death for a Spy, others would have him sent back, and some were for delivering him to Lowrey, to be kept till the Man that killed his Brother and the Indian by setting Fire to the Powder was delivered; he's in Lowrey's Possession now, he says that the French Traders complained to the Governor, that the English Traders had bought all their Debts of the Indians, and that unless he prevented the English from trading so far back, that they must quit the Trade, upon which the Governor ordered the Hatchet to be given to the French Indians to strike the English, which was done before he came away. He says that there was a great Number of Soldiers expected up from Canada, and that the Whitemen taken from Carolina was taken by the French Nottaway Indians or Wandotts and was sent to Canada before he made his Escape, who I suppose are now returned with the other Prisoners that came with Capt Stoddard from Canada. The two Traders belonging to our Province that I wrote you as I was coming from Philadelphia last was taken, have sent a Letter home, there were taken by the Ottawawas and are sent to Canada, they write that they are well used, and are to be sent home in the Spring by Way of New York, we have also an Account that thirty French Wandotts have killed fourteen White Men belonging to Carolina, I cannot assert it for Truth, tho I am afraid it is too true. I am

Sir

Your most humble Servant

William Trent.

A Letter from Governor Clinton to Governor Hamilton.

Sir

I yesterday received the following Information from Coll William Johnson, viz. that Jean Ceur is sent with another Officer to Ohio River, to bring that Body Indians over to the French (if possible) by any means, he having a large Quantity of very valuable Goods to distribute among them, and all other Nations he passes thro': And as you may have time enough to overset their Schemes, by sending proper Persons to talk with the Indians, and acquaint them that they come as Spies. This Account he says may be depended on, for Arent Stephens the Interpreter, who came lately from Oswego, saw and spoke with Jean Ceur, who made no Scruple to tell the Intent of his Journey: If the French should prevail on those Indians by their Presents, the Five Nations must certainly submit, for which Reason I thought it for his Majesties Service, and the Safety of these Colonies, to give you this Intelligence as soon as possible; I am with great Respect

Sir

Fort George
3d September 1750.

Your Honours most obedient and very humble Servant

G. Clinton.

And on mature Consideration of these and several other Matters, which are come to the Governor's Knowledge since the Meeting of the Assembly, by the Examination of the Traders many of whom are now in Town, the Governor drew up the following Answer to Governor Clinton which was approved, and it was likewise thought proper that the Southern Governments should be made acquainted with the unfavourable Change likely to happen very soon in the State of the Indian Affairs, to the end that they might concur in proper Measures to preserve the Friendship of the Indians at this nice Conjuncture.

A Letter from Governor Hamilton to Governor Clinton.

Sir

Your Excellency's Letter of the third Instant, imparting to me Coll Johnson's ..... Intelligence of some French Officers going towards Ohio with a large Present for the Indians, was detained in the Post Office, or I would have done myself the Honour to have answered it sooner, ... especially as the Contents are of great Consequence, and what I have had of late much under my ... Consideration.

The Indian Interpreter at Ohio was fortunately in Town when your Letter came to my Hands, and I dispatched him immediately with a Present to the Twightwees, which at my

Instance

Pennsylvania 1750.

Instance had been provided by our Assembly: he came to deliver me a Message from the Indians at Ohio to all his Majesties Governments, a Copy whereof I have enclosed, as also a Copy of a Message from the Twightwees, giving to understand that they had resisted the French Solicitations and Presents and would adhere to their new Allies, and if these Messages be duly considered it cannot but be thought necessary that these Indians be suitably rewarded for their Attachment to us, because it must be obvious, that if for want of due Encouragement Nations of such Importance should go from us, this would affect our Influence on all the other Indians, and might in the end totally destroy it.

You cannot be insensible that Numbers of the Six Nations have of late left their old Habitations, and settled on the Branches of Missesippi, and are become more numerous there than in the Countries they left, at which both the French and the Council at Onondago are not a little alarmed, as it will give a remarkable Turn to Indian Affairs, and must draw the Attention of his majesties Governors into those more remote Parts. If my Information be true, and I have it from Persons of undoubted Credit, these Refugees of the Six Nations (if I may use the Term) the Shavonese and Delawares with their new Allies the Onondaets and Twightwees, make a Body of Fifteen Hundred, if not Two Thousand Men, and in my Opinion these different Nations are now upon the Ballance; if a prudent Management and seasonable Liberality be excercised, they may be retained in our Interest. But if no Notice be taken of them, nor suitable Presents be made them, the French may justly reproach the Twightwees for their Defection, and they will cast these Reproaches on our Indians who perswaded them into our Alliance, and thereupon they may not only leave us themselves, but draw off our Indians with them, and if we fall into these unhappy Circumstances, 'tis not probable we shall retain the Six Nations at Onondago long, for when these are strippd of their Allies, and of these Westward Indians, they will be despised, or to avoid Contempt go over to the French with the other Indians.

This I take to be a true Representation of the State of Indian Affairs, and it gives me much Concern that the Council at Onondago should not be able to retain their People among them, but by suffering their young Indians to go and settle in those distant Parts, give Rise to a new Interest that in a little time must give them Law, instead of taking it from them; But the thing is too plain to be concealed, and therefore his majesty's Governors will do well to consider what is proper to be done on this new turn of Affairs.

This Province has chearfully been at a very considerable Expence to preserve these Indians, and was it in Ability might continue to do so, but they grow too numerous for any single Colony, it is therefore become expedient that this Matter should be fully set forth, and as I have taken the ..... Freedom to place it in what appears to me to be the true Light to your Excellency, I shall likewise do the same to the Governors of Virginia and Maryland, in hopes that something may be done to frustrate the Effects of the indefatigable Pains the French are taking in that ... Quarter. I am with great Respect

Sir

Your Excellency's most obedient humble Servant.
James Hamilton

Philadelphia
20th September 1750.

At a Counail held at Philadelphia Wednesday the 3d October 1750

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Joseph Turner, Thomas Hopkinson, } Esquires
William Logan, Richard Peters, }

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Returns of Sheriffs and Coroners for the four Counties of the Province were read and the Commissions orderd to be made out for the following Persons

Sheriff		Coroner
Isaac Griffitts	Philadelphia County	George Heap
Joseph Hart	Bucks County	William Smith
John Owen	Chester County	Isaac Lea
Andrew Work	Lancaster County	Robert Stuart

in our Presents. However, since they have withstood the Sollicitations of the French, as they engaged themselves to do by the Treaty at Lancaster, and as they have refused to receive any Presents from them in Proof of their Attachment to Us, at the same time intimating 'they would be pleased to receive some Testimony of our Regard;' and as on their Admission to our Alliance the Deputies of the Six Nations candidly informed us tho' they were numerous and worthy of our Friendship 'yet they were poor,' we are of Opinion, considering the Service they may be of to us, and 'the large Addition which is made to the Trade of this Province by their means,' it may be prudent, and accordingly we have agreed to make them some 'small Present' at this time.

"The Accounts from Andrew Montour, which have been laid before us by the Governor's Order are under our Consideration, and we think it reasonable to make him such allowance as shall appear a 'suitable Recompence for his Services.' The Esteem he is in with the Indians, the great Confidence they place in him, his Discretion and Residence at Ohio, are good Reasons for the Governor's recommending him to our Notice. Such a Person we judge must be of Use to influence their Conduct and keep them firmly attached to the British Interest. And as he is ready and willing to serve the Province to the utmost of his Power, he deserves to be encouraged, especially as the Indians of those Parts are not of the most 'prudent Behaviour, and at a Time when the French leave no Means unattempted to alienate their Affection from us, and exclude us from any Share of the Benefits of trading with them.'

"Signed by Order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"15th August, 1750."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Saturday the 18th August, 1748.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell, Joseph Turner, } Esqrs.
Thomas Hopkinson, William Logan, }
Richard Peters, }

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approv'd.

The Governor informed the Board that on receit of a Message from the House that the Flower Bill which was engross'd might be examin'd by some Members of Council, and that he would please to appoint the Time for their presenting it to him in order to be enacted into a Law, he had appointed Mr. Strettell and Mr. Peters

to compare the Engross'd Bill with the Copy, and had likewise ordered the House to wait on him at eleven this morning; whereupon the Secretary was sent with a Message requiring their immediate Attendance.

And the House attending accordingly, the Speaker presented to his Honour the Bill entitled a Supplementary Act to the Act intituled "An Act for preventing the Exportation of Bread and Flower not merchantable, and for the new Appointment of Officers to put the said Law in Execution;" which was enacted into a Law. Then the Speaker presented the Governor with an Order on the Treasury of Four Hundred Pounds for his Support, for which he return'd the House his Thanks.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Wednesday, 19th September, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,	Samuel Hasell,	Esqrs.
Joseph Turner,	Thomas Hopkinson.	
William Logan,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approv'd.

The Governor having received some Intelligence of Consequence relating to the Indians, in a Letter wrote to the Secretary by Capt Trent, one of the Justices of Cumberland County, and partner with Mr. Croghan, the most considerable Indian Trader, which seems to be confirm'd by a Letter of the third Instant from Governor Clinton, both Letters were read and order'd to be enter'd:

A Letter to the Secretary from Capt. Trent.

"LANCASTER, August 18th, 1750.

"Sir:

"A few Days ago some of the Lowry's Hands came in from the Woods, they had a Frenchman in company who says he was a French Trader, and was put in Irons and confined for disobeying the Orders of the Commander of the Fort where he traded (the Fort lyes betwixt De Troit and the Pict's Country) by the Assistance of his Friends he made his Escape to the Picts that are in Friendship with us, some of which was for putting him to death for a Spy, others would have him sent back, and some were for delivering him to Lowry to be kept till the Man that killed his Brother and the Indian by setting Fire to the Powder was delivered. He's in Lowry's Possession now; he says that the French Traders complain'd to the Governor that the English Traders had bought all their Debts of the Indians, and that unless he prevented the Eng-

lish from trading so far back that they must quit the Trade; upon which the Governor ordered the Hatchet to be given to the French Indians to strike the English, which was done before he came away. He says that there was a great Number of Soldiers expected up from Canada, and that the White men taken from Carolina was taken by the French Nottawagoes or Wandotts, and was sent to Canada before he made his escape, who I suppose are now returned with the other Prisoners that came with Capt Stoddard from Canada. The two Traders belonging to our Province that I wrote you as I was coming from Philadelphia last was taken, have sent a Letter home; there were taken by the Ottawawas and are sent to Canada; they write that they are well used, and are to be sent home in the Spring by way of New York; we have also an Account that thirty French Wandotts have killed fourteen White Men belonging to Carolina; I cannot assert it for Truth, tho' I am afraid it is too true.

"I am, Sir, Your most humble Servant,

"WILLIAM TRENT."

A Letter from Governor Clinton to Governer Hamilton.

"Sir:

"I yesterday received the following Information from Coll. William Johnston, viz.: that Jean Ceur is sent with another Officer to Ohio River to bring that Body Indians over to the French (if possible) by any means, he having a large Quantity of very valuable Goods to distribute among them and all other Nations he passes thro'; And as you may have time enough to overset their Schemes by sending proper Persons to talk with the Indians, and acquaint them that they come as Spies. This Account he says may be depended on, for Arent Stephens, the Interpreter, who came lately from Oswego, saw and spoke with Jean Ceur, who made no Scruple to tell the Intent of his Journey. If the French should prevail on those Indians by their Presents the Five Nations must certainly submit, for which Reason I thought it for his Majestie's Service and the Safety of these Colonies to give you this Intelligence as soon as possible.

"I am, with great Respect, Sir,

"Your Honour's most obedient and very humble Servant,

"G. CLINTON.

"FORT GEORGE, 3d September, 1750."

And on mature Consideration of these and several other Matters which are come to the Governor's Knowledge since the Meeting of the Assembly by the Examination of the Traders, many of whom are now in Town, the Governor drew up the following Answer to Governor Clinton, which was approved, and it was likewise thought proper that the Southern Governments should be made acquainted with the unfavourable Change likely to happen very soon in the State of the Indian Affairs, to the end that they might

concur in proper Measures to preserve the Friendship of the Indians at this nice Conjuncture:

A Letter from Governor Hamilton to Governer Clinton.

"Sir:

"Your Excellency's Letter of the third Instant, imparting to me Coll. Johnson's Intelligence of some French Officers going towards Ohio with a large Present for the Indians, was detained in the Post Office, or I would have done myself the Honour to have answered it sooner, especially as the Contents are of great Consequence and what I have had of late much under my Consideration.

"The Indian Interpreter at Ohio was fortunately in Town when your Letter came to my Hands, and I dispatched him immediately with a Present to the Twightwees, which at my Instance had been provided by our Assembly; he came to deliver me a Message from the Indians at Ohio to all his Majestie's Governments, a Copy whereof I have enclosed, as also a Copy of a Message from the Twightwees, giving to understand that they had resisted the French Solicitations and Presents and would adhere to their new Allies; and if these Messages be duly considered, it cannot but be thought necessary that these Indians be suitably rewarded for their Attachment to us, because it must be obvious that if for want of due Encouragement Nations of such Importance should go from us, this would affect our Influence on all the other Indians, and might in the end totally destroy it.

"You cannot be insensible that Numbers of the Six Nations have of late left their old Habitations and settled on the Branches of Mississippi, and are become more numerous there than in the Countries they left, at which both the French and the Council at Onondago are not a little alarmed, as it will give a remarkable Turn to Indian Affairs, and must draw the Attention of his Majestie's Governors into those more remote Parts. If my Information be true, and I have it from Persons of undoubted Credit, these Refugees of the Six Nations (if I may use the Term), the Shawonese and Delawares, with their new Allies the Owendaets and Twightwees, make a Body of Fifteen Hundred if not Two Thousand Men, and in my Opinion these different Nations are now upon the Ballance. If a prudent Management and seasonable Liberalty be exercised they may be retained in our Interest; But if no notice be taken of them, nor suitable Presents be made them, the French may justly reproach the Twightwees for their Defection, and they will cast these Reproaches on our Indians who perswaded them into our Alliance, and thereupon they may not only leave us themselves but draw off our Indians with them, and if we fall into these unhappy Circumstances 'tis not probable we shall retain the Six Nations at Onondago long, for when these are stripp'd of their Allies and of these Westward Indians, they will be despised, or to avoid Contempt go over to the French with the other Indians.

"This I take to be a true Representation of the State of Indian Affairs; and it gives me much Concern that the Council at Onondago should not be able to retain their People among them, but by suffering their young Indians to go and settle in those distant Parts give Rise to a new Interest that in a little time must give them Law instead of taking it from them. But the thing is too plain to be concealed, and therefore his Majesty's Governors will do well to consider what is proper to be done on this new turn of Affairs.

"This Province has chearfully been at a very considerable Expence to preserve these Indians, and was it in Ability might continue to do so, but they grow too numerous for any single Colony; it is therefore become expedient that this Matter should be fully set forth, and as I have taken the Freedom to place it in what appears to me to be the true Light to your Excellency, I shall likewise do the same to the Governors of Virginia and Maryland, in hopes that something may be done to frustrate the Effects of the Indefatigable Pains the French are taking in that Quarter.

"I am, with great Respect, Sir,

"Your Excellency's most obedient humble Servant,

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"PHILADELPHIA, 20th September, 1750."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Wednesday, the 3d October, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Joseph Turner,	Thomas Hopkinson,	} Esquires.
William Logan,	Richard Peters,	}

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approv'd.

The Returns of Sheriffs and Coroners for the four Counties of the Province were read, and the Commissions order'd to be made out for the following Persons:

Sheriff.		*Coroner.*
Isaac Griffitts,	Philadelphia County,	George Heap,
Joseph Hart,	Bucks County,	William Smith,
John Owen,	Chester County,	Isaac Lea,
Andrew Work,	Lancaster County.	Robert Stuart.

A Letter from Governor Clinton, with his Message to his Assembly, and their Answer on the Subject of the Governor's Letter to him, entered in the last minute of Council, were read and order'd to be enter'd:

Copy of a Message delivered by Andrew Montour Indian Interpreter at Ohio, to the Governour of Pennsilvania

May it Please the Governour

The Twightwees who were admitted into the Alliance the English in a Treaty held at Lancaster two or three years ago, sent wo Deputies to Allegheny last Winter, with a Message addressed to e Six Nations, and other Indians living on Ohio, and to the several nglish Provinces accompanied with this String of Wampum.

The Message delivered by the Deputies of the Twightwees was as follows.

Brethren of the Six Nations and all the English living on Ohio, and all he English Governours.

"We the Twightwees who are now one with you desire that the Road, which has lately been opened between us, being a ew one, and therefore rough blind and not well Cleared, may now be made lain, and that every thing which may hinder the Passage may be removed t of it, so Effectually, as not to leave the least Obstruction, and we desire is may be done, not only as far as where you live, but beyond you, to the laces where Our Brethren the English live, that their Traders whom We desire to see amongst Us, and to deal with Us for the future, may travel to Securely and with Ease.

"Brethren We are yet Young and unexperienced. You the Six Nations are Our Elder Brothers, and Can advise us what to do on all Occasions. We therefore put Our selves under your Care, and request that you will look upon us Children, and assist us with your Council, and We promise to follow what ever advice you give Us; for We are Sensible, that it will be for Our good. Our Father Onontio has kept us poor and blind, but thro' your means We begin to open Our Eyes, and to see things at a great Distance. We assure you by this String of Wampum, that We the Twightwees, have entirely laid Onontio aside, and will no more be governed by his advice, nor any longer hearken to what he shall Say.

This.

"This is Our Settled Determination. And We give you the Strongest
"Assurances, that We shall abide by it; and of this We desire you will inform
"the Six Nation Indians at Onondago, and all the Indians who are in their
"and your Alliance, and likewise the Governour of Pennsilvania, and the
"other English Governours."

Sr I have it further in Charge to relate to you the
Answer which the Six Nation Indians at Ohio, gave to this Message of
the Twightwees.

Brethren the Twightwees.

Harken to what We say, and Consider
Our Answer, as the joint Answer of all the Nations of the Indians living
in these parts, of Our Fathers the Six Nations living at Onondago, and of the
English Governours, all whom We include in this Answer

Brethren of the Twightwee Nation.

"You have by your Deputies
"desired of us, that We would open the new Road between us and you wider,
"and take out of it every thing that can possibly hinder Our Travelling
"Safely and Pleasantly to one another, and that the English Traders may
"come more amongst you. And further that you have henceforth
"put your selves under Our Care, and desire We will assist you with Our
"Council, and that you have intirely laid aside Onontio, and will be no
"more Governed by his Councils."

"We declare Our selves well Pleased with
"every part of your Message, and will heartily join with you in making
"the Road perfectly Clear, and free from all Impediments — We will take
"you under Our Care, and assist you on all Occasions, in the Best manner.
"We trust your Determinations are made with the utmost Seriousness
"and Deliberation, and that you will adhere to what you Say. — The
"English and We are firmly united together, We are all one People, and Our
"Hands joined so together, that nothing can seperate them. You have
"joined hands with them and Us 'tis true, but yours are as yet like
"the hands of Infants, they cannot take hold of the Chain of Friendship
"with so much Strength as those of Riper years; but We advise you to

take

take as Strong an hold of it as ever you can, and to form an Union that nothing can break through — If any Tree should fall and Block up the Road between Us, be sure let us all put Our hands to it, and unitedly and Amicably, like Brethren, throw it Out of the Road — Dont let us Act Single on any Occasion, but altogether, and then shall we have the more Strength."

I am further Ordered to tell you that a Message arrived from the Twightwees just before I left Allegheny to acknowledge that they had received the Ohio Answer, and returned thanks, and gave further Assurances that they would continue true to their New Engagements, and Expected to receive the Answer of the English Governours by the first Trader that should come into their parts in the Fall.

I have finished what was given me in charge with respect to the Twightwees, but I have something to Communicate to the Governour of Pennsilvania, and all the other Governours on the Continent, which was Communicated to me by the Owendacts (otherwise called the Sonontady-Haga Indians) in Conjunction with the other Indians Settled on Ohio, be pleased therefore to receive a Message sent by the Owendacts and the other Indians.

Brethren the Governours of Pennsilvania and New York

When you were at War with Onontio, We were perswaded by Corlaer to strike the French, you have since made peace with Onontio, and We expected that we were included in that Treaty, but we dont find it so, for the French are always threatning Us, and have put us in so much fear by their Menaces, that We dare not Suffer Our People to go to the Hunting places at a distance from Us, least We should meet a party of French. This was the case all last Summer, and We have received Intelligence from the Six Nations, that the French in Canada are now making Military preparations, and intend to attack us this Summer — Brethren you ought to have included us in your peace, but since you did not, We now request that the English Governours

would

would jointly apply to have us Included in the peace, that we may not be Subject to their Intimidations and Resentment of the French, but be in quiet as well as you.

Here he finished & gave a String of Wampum

NB The Owendacks lived on the other side of Lake Erie before the Commencement of the War: but left their Settlements and came on this side the Lake, and Committed Hostilities against the French, and dare not return to their Towns but remain with the other Indians on Ohio.

The above is a true Copy of an Indian Message delivered by Mr. Andrew Montour Indian Interpreter at Ohio, & entered into the Council Books examined by me & Certified this 20th 7ber 1750.

Richard Peters,
Secretary of Pennsylvania.

New York A true Copy Exam.d by
Jo. Chambers Dep.y Secry

Copy
Message from the Ohio
Indians Expressing
their Satisfaction
with the Treaty and desiring
a Supply from the Govr
Received from the
Delawares.

copy

Message from the
Hon. Indian Company
— Messages from the
Governor and
Council in Reply
to the Governor's
Speech on the Union

October 1750

To his Excellency Gov.
Ceylon.

Copy of a Message delivered by Andrew Montour Indian Interpreter at Chio to the Governour of Pennsilvania

May it Please Yr Governour

We Neighbours who were admitted into Yr Alliance of Yr English in a Treaty held at Lancaster two or three Years ago, sent Our Deputies to Allegheny last Winter with a Message addressed to Yr six Nations and other Indians living on Chio, and to Yr several English Provinces accompanied with this String of Wampum.

The Message delivered by the Deputies of the Neighbours was as follows

Brethren of the six Nations and all the Indians living on Chio and all the English Governours

We the Neighbours who are now one with you declare that the Chain of Friendship then entered into between us, being a Matter of the deepest Concern to us all, that we should carefully preserve it bright, and that no Accident which may hereafter happen should cause it to be removed out of Yr Sight, but that We should look upon it as the strongest Confirmation of our Friendship that Anger should upon no Occasion whatever arise between Yr English and us, but that We Indians whom We desire to be one amongst us and to act with us for the future, may travel to us securely and with Ease.

Brethren

We are yet Young and inexperienced You the six Nations are our Elder Brethren and can advise us what to do on all occasions, We therefore put our selves under your Care and request that you will look upon us Children and assist us with your Council and we promise to follow what ever Advice you give us for We are sensible that it will be for our good. Our Father Onontio has kept us blind and blind but thro your means We begin to open our Eyes and to see a Fire at a great Distance; We assure you by this String of Wampum that We the Neighbours have entirely laid Onontio aside and will no more be — governed by his advice nor any longer hearken to what he shall say.

This is our settled Determination and We give you the strongest Assurance that we shall abide by it, and as We have desire you will inform the six Nation Indians at Onondago and all the Indians who are in their and your Alliance and likewise the Governour of Pennsylvania and the other English Governours.

I

have it further in charge to relate to you the Answer which the Six Nation Indians ~~xxxxx~~ at Chio gave to this Message of the Neighbours.

Brethren the Twightwees

Hearken to what we say and consider our Answer as the joint Answer of all the Nations of the Indians living in these parts, from the Falls the six Nations living at Onondage, and of the English Governours all whom We include in this Answer

Brethren of the Twightwee Nation

You have by your Deputies desired of us that We would open the Road between us and you wide and take out of it everything that can possibly hinder our hearing safely and speaking to one another and that the English Traders may come more amongst you — and desire that We have henceforth just your selves under our Care, and desire We will assist you with our Council, and that you have entirely laid aside Guarding and will be more governed by Councils — I receive your Belts and strings with every part of your Message and will keep the path open by doing the Road perfectly clear of every impediment — We will take you under our care and assist you in the Ways of Peace. We hear you determination to make with us a strict and lasting Friendship, and that you will adhere to what you say — The English and We are joyned together We are all one People and our Hearts are joyned as that Nothing can break them. You have joyned Hands with Us and We this day as you are so yet like the Men of Sense, We cannot take hold of the Chain of Friendship with so much Strength as those of Riper Years, but we advise you to take as strong an hold of it as ever you can, and to form an Union that Nothing can break through — If any tree should fall and block up the the Road between us, be sure let us all put our Hands to it, and unitedly and amicably like Brethren throw it out of the Road — don't let us Act single on any Occasion, but all together, and then shall we have the more Strength.

Sr"

I am further ordered to tell you that A Message arrived from the Twightwees just before last Allegheny to acknowledge that they had recieved the Answer and returned Thanks and gave further Assurances that they would continue true to their new Engagements and expected to recieve the Answer of the English Governours by the first Traders that should come into their Parts in the Fall.

Sr"

I have finished what was given me in Charge with respect to the Twightwees, but I have still something to communicate to the Governour of Pennsilvania and all the other Governours on the Continent which was communicated to me by the Owendaets (otherwise called the Sonontady-Haga Indians) in conjunction with the other Indians settled on Ohio, be pleased therefore to recieve a Message sent by the Owendaets and the other Indians,

Brethren

Brethren the Governours of Pennsilvania and New York

When you were at ~~—~~ War with Onontio, We were perswaded by Corlaer to strike the French, & you have since made Peace with Onontio, and we expected that we were included in that Treaty but we dont find it so, for the French are always threatning us, and have put us into so much fear by their Menaces that We dare not suffer our People to go into the Hunting Places at a distance from us, least We should meet a Party of French: this was the Case all last Summer, and We have received Intelligence from the Six Nations that the French in Canada are now making Military Preparations, and intend to attack us this Summer— Brethren you ought to have included us in your Peace but since you did not, We now Request that the English Governours would jointly assist to have us included in the Peace, that we may not be subject to their Intimidations and Resentment of the French, but be in quiet as well as you.

N.B. The Cwendachs lived on the other side of Lake Erie before the Commencement of the War, but left their Settlements and came on this side the Lake and committed Hostilities against the French, and dare not return to their Towns but remain with the other Indians on Ohio.

the Ballance. If a prudent management and seasonable Liberality be exercised they may be retained in our Interest. But if no notice be taken of them nor suitable presents made them, the French may justly reproach the Twightwees for their Defection, and they will cast these Reproaches on our Indians who perswaded them into our Alliance, and thereupon they may not only leave us themselves, but draw off our Indians with them, and if we should fall into these unhappy circumstances tis not probable we shall retain the Six Nations at Onondago long, for when these are strip'd of their allies, and of these Western Indians they will be despised, or to avoid contempt, go over to the French with the other Indians

This I take to be a true Representation of the State of Indian Affairs and gives me much concern that the Council at Onondago should not be able to retain their People among them, but by suffering their young Indians to go and settle in those distant parts, give rise to a new Interest that in a little time must give them Law instead of taking it from them; but the thing is too plain to be concealed and therefore His Majestys Governors will do well to consider what is proper to be done on this new Turn of affairs

This Province has cheerfully been at a very considerable expence to preserve these Indians, and was it in Ability, might continue to do so: but they grow too numerous for any single Colony, it is therefore become expedient that this matter should be fully set forth, and as I have taken the Freedom to place it in what appears to me [to be] the true light to your Excellency I have likewise done the same to the Governors of Virginia and Maryland in hopes that some thing may be done to frustrate the effects of the indefatigable pains the French are taking in that Quarter

If your Excellency shall think proper to make any Answer to the inclosed Messages on your Transmitting it home I'll take care to send it by the first opportunity to our Interpreter at Ohio

I am with all possible regard

Sir

Your most obedient

& most humble Servant

(sg[d]) JAMES HAMILTON

Philadelphia 20 Sep 1750

New York

a true Copy Ex[d] P.

GW BANYAR Sec[y]

Message of Miamis and Hurons to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

[New-York Papers, Hh., No. 121.]

Copy of a Message delivered by Andrew Montour Indian Interpreter at Ohio, to the Governor of Pensylvania

May it please the Governor

The Twightwees who were admitted into the Alliance of the English in a Treaty held at Lancaster two or three years ago sent their Deputys to Allegheney last Winter, with a Message

addressed to the six Nations, and other Indians living on Ohio and to the several English Provinces accompanied with this string of Wampum

The Message delivered by the Deputys of the Twightwees was as follows

Brethren of the Six Nations and all the English living on Ohio, and all the English Governors

"We the Twightwees who are now one with you desire that the Road, which has lately been open between us, being a new one, and therefore rough blind and not well cleared may now be made plain, and that every thing which may hinder the Passage may be removed out of it, so effectually as not to leave the least obstruction, and we desire this may be done, not only as far as where you live, but beyond you to the places where our brethren the English live, that there Traders whom we desire to see amongst us, and to deal with us for the future, may travel to us securely & with Ease

"Brethren

We are yet young and unexperienced, you the six Nations are our elder brothers, and can advise us what to do on all occasions, We therefore put ourselves under your care, and request that you will look upon us children, and assist us with your Council, and we promise to follow whatever advice you give us; for we are sensible that it will be for our Good. Our Father Onontio has kept us poor & blind, but thro' your means we begin to open our eyes and to see things at a great distance. We assure you by this String of Wampum, that we the Twightwees, have entirely laid Onontio aside, and will no more be governed by his advice nor any longer hearken to what he shall say

This is our settled Determination, and we give you the strongest Assurances that we shall abide by it, and of this we desire you will inform the Six Nations Indians at Onondago and all the Indians who are in their and your alliance and likewise the Governor of Pensilvania and the other English Governors"

Sir

I have it further in charge to relate to you the answer which the six Nation Indians at Ohio, gave to this Message of the Twightwees

Brethren the Twightwees

Harken to what we say and consider our answer as the joint answer of all the Nations of the Indians living in these Parts, of our Fathers the Six Nations living at Onondago and of the English Governors all of whom we include in this answer

Brethren of the Twightwee Nations

"You have by your Deputies desired of us, that we would open the new Road between "us and you wide and take out of it every thing that can possibly hinder our Travelling safely "and pleasantly to one an other, and that the English Trader may come more amongst you. "And further that you have henceforth put yourselves under our care and desire we will assist "you with our Council and that you have entirely laid aside Onontio, and will be no more "governed by his Councils"

"We declare ourselves well pleased with every part of Your Message and will heartily join "with you in making the Road perfectly clear and free from all impediments We will take "you under our care, and assist you on all occasions in the best manner We trust your "Determinations are made with the utmost seriousness and Deliberation, and that you will "adhere to what you say—The English & We are firmly united together, We are all one

" people and our hands joined so together, that nothing can separate them You have joined
" hands with them & us tis true, but yours are yet like the hands of Infants, they can not take
" hold of the chain of Friendship with so much strength as those of riper years; but we advise
" you to take as strong an hold of it as ever you can and to form an union that nothing can
" break through — If any Tree should fall & block up the Road between us, be sure let us all
" put our hands to it, and unitedly & amicably, like Brethren, throw it out of the Road — Dont
" let us act single on any occasion, but altogether, and then shall we have the more strength"

Sir

I am further ordered to tell you that a Message arrived from the Twightwees just before I left Allegheney to acknowledge that they had received the Ohio answer, and returned thanks, and gave further Assurances that they would continue true to their new Engagements & expected to receive the Answer of the English Governors by the first Trader that should come into their parts in the Fall

S^r^

I have finished what was given me in charge with respect to the Twightwees, but I have still something to communicate to the Governor of Pensilvania and all the other Governors on the Continent, which was communicated to me by the Owendaets (otherwise called the Ionontady-Haga Indians) in conjunction with the other Indians settled on Ohio, be pleased therefore to receive a message sent by the owendaets and the other Indians.

Brethren the Governors of Pensilvania and New York

When you were at War with Onontio, we were perswaded by Corlaer to strike the French, you have since made peace with Onontio, and we expected that we were included in that Treaty, but we dont find it so, for the French are always threatning us, and have put us into so much fear by their menaces, that we dare not suffer our People to go to the hunting places at a distance from us lest we should meet a party of French, This was the case all last summer, and we have received Intelligence from the Six Nations, that the French in Canada are now making Military Preperations, and intend to attack us this summer. Brethren you ought to have included us in your Peace, but since you did not, we now request that the English Governors would jointly apply to have us included in the Peace, that we may not be subject to their intimidations and Resentment of the French but be in quiet as well as you

Here he finished and gave a String of Wampum —

N B The Owendaets[1] lived on the other side of Lake Erie before the Commencem^t^ of the War: but left their Settlements and came on this side the Lake, and committed Hostilities against the French & dare not return to their Towns but remain with the other Indians on Ohio

The above is a true Copy of an Indian Message delivered by Mr Andrew Montour Indian Interpreter at Ohio, & entered into the Council Books exam^d^ by me & Certified this 20 Sep 1750

RICHARD PETERS
Sêcy of Pensylvania

New York a true Copy
Examined by
GW BANYAR D Sêcry

[1] HURONS. — ED.

Pennsylvania 1750.

Instance had been provided by our Assembly: he came to deliver me a Message from the Indians at Ohio to all his Majesties Governments, a Copy whereof I have enclosed, as also a Copy of a Message from the Twightwees, giving to understand that they had resisted the French Solicitations and Presents and would adhere to their new Allies, and if these Messages be duly considered it cannot but be thought necessary that these Indians be suitably rewarded for their Attachment to us, because it must be obvious, that if for want of due Encouragement Nations of such Importance should go from us, this would affect our Influence on all the other Indians, and might in the end totally destroy it.

You cannot be insensible that Numbers of the Six Nations have of late left their old Habitations, and settled on the Branches of Missesippi, and are become more numerous there than in the Countries they left, at which both the French and the Council at Onondago are not a little alarmed, as it will give a remarkable Turn to Indian Affairs, and must draw the Attention of his Majesties Governors into those more remote Parts. If my Information be true, and I have it from Persons of undoubted Credit, these Refugees of the Six Nations (if I may use the Term) the Shawonese and Delawares with their new Allies the Onondaets and Twightwees, make a Body of Fifteen Hundred, if not Two Thousand Men, and in my Opinion these different Nations are now upon the Ballance; if a prudent Management and seasonable Liberality be excercised, they may be retained in our Interest. But if no Notice be taken of them, nor suitable Presents be made them, the French may justly reproach the Twightwees for their Defection, and they will cast these Reproaches on our Indians who perswaded them into our Alliance, and thereupon they may not only leave us themselves, but draw off our Indians with them, and if we fall into these unhappy Circumstances, 'tis not probable we shall retain the Six Nations at Onondago long, for when these are strippd of their Allies, and of these Westward Indians, they will be despised, or to avoid Contempt go over to the French with the other Indians.

This I take to be a true Representation of the State of Indian Affairs, and it gives me much Concern that the Council at Onondago should not be able to retain their People among them, but by suffering their young Indians to go and settle in those distant Parts, give Rise to a new Interest that in a little time must give them Law, instead of taking it from them; But the thing is too plain to be concealed, and therefore his majestys Governors will do well to consider what is proper to be done on this new turn of Affairs.

This Province has chearfully been at a very considerable Expence to preserve these Indians, and was it in Ability might continue to do so, but they grow too numerous for any single Colony, it is therefore become expedient that this Matter should be fully set forth, and as I have taken the ..... Freedom to place it in what appears to me to be the true Light to your Excellency, I shall likewise do the same to the Governors of Virginia and Maryland, in hopes that something may be done to frustrate the Effects of the indefatigable Pains the French are taking in that ... Quarter. I am with great Respect

Sir

Your Excellency's most obedient humble Servant.

James Hamilton

Philadelphia
20th September 1750.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Wednesday the 3d October 1750

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Joseph Turner, Thomas Hopkinson, William Logan, Richard Peters } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Returns of Sheriffs and Coroners for the four Counties of the Province were read and the Commissions orderd to be made out for the following Persons

Sheriff		Coroner
Isaac Griffitts	Philadelphia County	George Heap
Joseph Hart	Bucks County	William Smith
John Owen	Chester County	Isaac Lea
Andrew Work	Lancaster County	Robert Stuart

Pennsylvania 1750.

A Letter from Governor Clinton, with his Message to his Assembly, and their Answer on the Subject of the Governor's Letter to him entered in the last Minute of Council, were read and ordered to be entered.

A Letter from Governor Clinton to Governor Hamilton

Sr

Your Favour of 20th Instant I received by the Post, which I communicated to his Majesty's Council of this Province, and (by their Advice) laid it before the General Assembly, from whose ..... Sentiments on the Contents, you will form a better Judgment, on perusing the enclosed Papers, than by my relating them to you. I am

Sir

Your Honours

Fort George in New York
October 1st 1750.

most obedient and very humble Servant
G. Clinton.

A Message from Governor Clinton to his Assembly.

Gentlemen

I have received by the last post a letter from Governor Hamilton, a copy of which, together with copies of some papers enclosed in said letter, I now send to you, with an extract from a letter to me from Colo Johnson.

From all of them you will perceive how necessary it is for you to enable me without delay, to secure the fidelity of the Indian Nations, in alliance with the British Colonies: and to remove the jealousies which have been artfully infused into their minds by the French of Canada; by granting the Supplies necessary for those purposes. I must therefore earnestly recommend to you, to take this ... matter into your serious deliberation, that the mischiefs which threaten all the Colonies in North America, may be prevented before it become too late. You will perceive from Mr Hamilton's Letter that the Government of Pennsylvania expects that we will join in bearing part of the expence of securing the fidelity of the Indians on Ohio River.

I cannot give any proper answer to his letter till I know your resolutions, whether you will contribute to that expence.

Fort George in the City of New York
25 September 1750.

G: Clinton

The Address of the General Assembly of New York to Governor Clinton.

To his Excellency The Honourable George Clinton Capt General and Governor in Chief of the Colony of New York and Territories thereon depending in America Vice Admiral of the same and Admiral of the White Squadron of his Majesty's Fleet.

The humble Address of the General Assembly of the said Colony.

May it please your Excellency

We his majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects the General Assembly of the Colony of New York, have with all due attention considered your Excellency's Message of the ... twenty fifth instant, the copy of Governor Hamilton's letter of the 20th instant, the extract of Colo ... Johnson's Letter of the 18th of August last, and the other papers therewith communicated to us, touching the present State of Indian Affairs, and humbly beg leave to represent to your Excellency, that the People of this Colony have in all times past exerted their utmost Efforts at a very great annual expence, to secure and retain the Indian Nations in the British Interest, and are still willing to contribute according to ... their abilities towards preserving the Five Nations (on whom many other great and numerous Nations depend) in their attachment to his Majesty. But humbly beg leave to observe to your Excellency, that

we

Pennsylvania 1750.

we have been put to an almost insupportable Expence (not unknown to your Excellency) during the late War, to secure our Frontiers against the Incursions of the common Enemy, to which by our Situation we were continually exposed. By this means Sir all our publick Funds are exhausted, and a debt of many thousand Pounds incurred, which remains still unpaid: in these circumstances Your Excellency must be sensible, that we are at present in no condition to comply with Governor Hamilton's Proposals. and must further beg leave to observe to your Excellency, that as in the late War we, in defending our own Frontiers, which lye between the Enemy and our neighbouring Colonies to the Westward, did in a great Measure, without any Contribution of Afsistance from them, secure their Inhabitants from all that Desolation, Blood, Rapine and Captivity, to which Numbers of poor People of this Colony were then exposed. So we conceive it just and reasonable, that they should now, at their own Expence, secure the Fidelity of those Indian Nations, who are seated much nearer to them than to us: a work of far less difficulty, expence and hazard, than what we, by our Situation, ever have, and ever must, whilst the French are Masters of Canada, continue to be exposid to. And this we beg your Excellency will be pleased to represent to Governor Hamilton, and the other Governors of his Majesty's Colonies to the Westward.

From the Intelligence Coll Johnson gives your Excellency in his letter of the 18th of August last, it appears to us necessary, that your Excellency should without delay meet our Five Nations of Indians in order to dispell and remove all the Jealousies which the French Emissaries have artfully infused into them, to the prejudice of his Majesty's Interest among them, and if possible to prevent any Defection among those Nations. And if your Excellency is of the same opinion, we will immediately enable you to make them a suitable Present on this Occasion, and will make the usual Provision for the Expence of your Excellency's Voyage to Albany.

Afsembly Chamber in the City of New York 27th of September 1750.

By order of the General Afsembly

David Jones Speaker

A Letter from Mr Weiser dated the thirtieth of September to the Secretary was likewise read and orderd to be enterd.

Bethlehem in Bucks County September the 30. 1750.

Sir

By these few Lines I let you know that I am safely returned on my Journey from Onondago to this place last night, and hope to find my family in perfect health by to morrow: I wish I could inform you by these Lines of a great deal of agreeable news, but I cannot; our Friend Canafsedego was buried to day before I came to Onondago and Solconwanaghly our other good friend died some time before. He that is on the head of affairs now is a profsessed Roman Catholick, and altogether devoted to the French. the french priests have made a hundred Converts of the Onondagers, that is to say, Men, Women and Children, and they are all cloathed and walk in the finest Cloathes, dressed with Silver and Gold, and I believe that the English Interest among the Six Nations can be of no consideration any more, the Indians speak with contempt of the New Yorkers and Albany People, and much the same of the rest of the English Colonies. I conclude and desire you will mention my humble respects to his Honour our Governor. I am

Sir

your very obedient

Conrad Weiser.

P.S. Within a few days I will send you a Copy of my Journal where you will see my Proceedings.

The Secretary is ordered to write to Mr Weiser to send his Journal with all possible expedition, and to attend here the day before the Meeting of the Afsembly, in order to give the proper Information about the State of Indian Affairs.

"This I take to be a true Representation of the State of Indian Affairs; and it gives me much Concern that the Council at Onondago should not be able to retain their People among them, but by suffering their young Indians to go and settle in those distant Parts give Rise to a new Interest that in a little time must give them Law instead of taking it from them. But the thing is too plain to be concealed, and therefore his Majesty's Governors will do well to consider what is proper to be done on this new turn of Affairs.

"This Province has chearfully been at a very considerable Expence to preserve these Indians, and was it in Ability might continue to do so, but they grow too numerous for any single Colony; it is therefore become expedient that this Matter should be fully set forth, and as I have taken the Freedom to place it in what appears to me to be the true Light to your Excellency, I shall likewise do the same to the Governors of Virginia and Maryland, in hopes that something may be done to frustrate the Effects of the Indefatigable Pains the French are taking in that Quarter.

"I am, with great Respect, Sir,

"Your Excellency's most obedient humble Servant,

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"PHILADELPHIA, 20th September, 1750."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Wednesday, the 3d October, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Joseph Turner, Thomas Hopkinson, } Esquires.
William Logan, Richard Peters, }

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read & approv'd.

The Returns of Sheriffs and Coroners for the four Counties of the Province were read, and the Commissions order'd to be made out for the following Persons:

Sheriff.		*Coroner.*
Isaac Griffitts,	Philadelphia County,	George Heap,
Joseph Hart,	Bucks County,	William Smith,
John Owen,	Chester County,	Isaac Lea,
Andrew Work,	Lancaster County.	Robert Stuart.

A Letter from Governor Clinton, with his Message to his Assembly, and their Answer on the Subject of the Governor's Letter to him, entered in the last minute of Council, were read and order'd to be enter'd:

A Letter from Governor Clinton to Governor Hamilton.

"Sr:

"Your Favour of 20th Instant I received by the Post, which I communicated to his Majesty's Council of this Province, and (by their Advice) laid it before the General Assembly, from whose Sentiments on the Contents you will form a better Judgment on perusing the enclosed Papers than by my relating them to you.

"I am, Sir, Your Honour's

"Most obedient and very humble Servant,

"G. CLINTON.

"FORT GEORGE, in New York, October 1st, 1750."

—

A Message from Governor Clinton to his Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"I have received by the last post a letter from Governor Hamilton, a copy of which, together with copies of some papers enclosed in said letter, I now send to you, with an extract from a letter to me from Coll. Johnson.

"From all of them you will perceive how necessary it is for you to enable me without delay to secure the fidelity of the Indian Nations in alliance with the British Colonies, and to remove the jealousies which have been artfully infused into their minds by the French of Canada, by granting the Supplies necessary for these purposes. I must, therefore, earnestly recommend to you to take this matter into your serious deliberation, that the mischiefs which threaten all the Colonies in North America may be prevented before it become too late. You will perceive from Mr. Hamilton's Letter that the Government of Pennsylvania expects that we will join in bearing part of the expence of securing the fidelity of the Indians on Ohio River.

"I cannot give any proper answer to his letter till I know your resolutions whether you will contribute to that expence.

"G. CLINTON.

"FORT GEORGE, in the City of New York, 25 September, 1750.

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The Address of the General Assembly of New York to Governor Clinton.

"*To his Excellency The Honourable GEORGE CLINTON, Capt General and Governor-in-Chief of the Colony of New York and Territories thereon depending in America, Vice Admiral of the same, and Admiral of the White Squadron of his Majesty's Fleet,*

"*The humble Address of the General Assembly of the said Colony.*

"May it please your Excellency:

"*We,* his Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects the General

Assembly of the Colony of New York, have with all due attention considered your Excellency's Message of the twenty-fifth instant, the copy of Governor Hamilton's letter of the 20th instant, the extract of Coll. Johnston's letter of the 18th of August last, and the other papers therewith communicated to us touching the present State of Indian Affairs, and humbly beg leave to represent to your Excellency that the People of this Colony have in all times past exerted their utmost Efforts, at a very great annual expence, to secure and retain the Indian Nations in the British Interest, and are still willing to contribute according to their abilities towards preserving the Five Nations (on whom many other great and numerous Nations depend) in their attachment to his Majesty; But humbly beg leave to observe to your Excellency that we have been put to an almost insupportable Expence (not unknown to your Excellency) during the late War to secure our Frontiers against the Incursions of the common Eenemy, to which by our Situation we were continually exposed. By this means, Sir, all our publick Fund are exhausted, and a debt of many thousand Pounds incurred, which remains still unpaid; in these circumstances Your Excellency must be sensible that we are at present in no condition to comply with Governor Hamilton's Proposals; and must further beg leave to observe to your Excellency, that as in the late War we in defending our own Frontiers which lye between the Enemy and our neighbouring Colonies to the Westward, did in a great Measure, without any Contribution of Assistance from them, secure their Inhabitants from all that Desolation, Blood, Rapine, and Captivity, to which Numbers of poor People of this Colony were then exposed, So we conceive it just and reasonable that they should now at their own Expence secure the Fidelity of those Indian Nations who are seated much nearer to them than to us—a work of far less difficulty, expence, and hazard than what we, by our Situation, ever have and ever must, whilst the French are Masters of Canada, continue to be expos'd to. And this we beg your Excellency will be pleased to represent to Governor Hamilton and the other Governors of his Majesty's Colonies to the Westward.

"From the Intelligence Coll. Johnson gives your Excellency in his letter of the 18th of August last, it appears to us necessary that your Excellency should without delay meet our Five Nations of Indians, in order to dispell and remove all the Jealousies which the French Emissaries have artfully infused into them to the prejudice of his Majesty's Interest among them, and, if possible, to prevent any Defection among these Nations. And if your Excellency is of the same opinion, we will immediately enable you to make them a suitable Present on this occasion, and will make the usual Provision for the Expence of your Excellency's Voyage to Albany.

"By order of the General Assembly.

"DAVID JONES, Speaker.

"Assembly Chamber, in the City of New York, 27th of September, 1750."

A Letter from Mr. Weiser, dated the thirtieth of September to the Secretary, was likewise read and order'd to be enter'd:

"BETHLEHEM, in Bucks County, September the 30, 1750.

"Sir:

"By these few lines I let you know that I am safely returned on my Journey from Onondago to this place last night, and hope to find my family in perfect health by to-morrow. I wish I could inform you by these lines of a great deal of agreeable news, but I cannot. Our Friend Canassetego was buried to day before I came to Onondago, and Solconwanaghly, our other good friend, died some time before. He that is on the head of affairs now is a proffessed Roman Catholick, and altogether devoted to the French. The French priests have made a hundred Converts of the Onondagers, that is to say Men, Women, and Children, and they are all cloathed and walk in the finest Cloathes, dressed with Silver and Gold, and I believe that the English Interest among the Six Nations can be of no consideration any more. The Indians speak with contempt of the New Yorkers and Albany People, and much the same of the rest of the English Colonies. I conclude and desire you will mention my humble respects to his Honour our Governor. I am,

"Sir, your very obedient

"CONRAD WEISER.

"P. S.—Within a few days I will send you a Copy of my Journal, where you will see my Proceedings."

The Secretary is ordered to write to Mr. Weiser to send his Journal with all possible expedition, and to attend here the day before the Meeting of the Assembly in order to give the proper Information about the State of Indian Affairs.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Saturday the 6th of October, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,
Thomas Hopkinson,
Richard Peters,
William Till,
William Logan,
} Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

On reading the Returns of Sheriffs and Coroners made for the County of Cumberland, and of Newcastle, Kent, and Sussex, the following Persons were commissionated:

the Fort of Oswego, and from thence came by New York to this Place.

his
"MORRIS M T TURNER.
mark.
"RALPH KILLGORE."

"Sworn before the Governor in Council.

"RICHARD PETERS, Secretary."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Wednesday the 10th October, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,	Samuel Hasell,	Esqrs.
Benjamin Shoemaker,	Joseph Turner,	
Thomas Hopkinson,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approv'd.

Six Members of Assembly waited on the Governor last night with a Message from the House, that pursuant to the Charter and Laws of the Province a Quorum of the Representatives had met and chose a Speaker, and desir'd to know when he wou'd be pleased to receive them that they might present him. By the Appointment of the Governor the whole House came into the Council Chamber and presented Isaac Norris, Esquire, as their Speaker, Who, having made the Request for Privileges as usual, and received the Governor's Approbation and favourable Answer, they withdrew.

The Governor informed the Board that he had communicated the Intelligences relating to Indian Affairs to the Governments of Virginia and Maryland, with his earnest Request that they wou'd lay the same before their respective Assemblies, and recommend to them to consider the Contents thereof that such measures might be taken by their Colonies, either separately or in Conjunction with New York, as might prevent the Defection of the Indians, which was much to be apprehended.

The following Message drawn in order to be sent to the Assembly was read and approved:

"Gentlemen:

"In my Message of the eighth of August to the late Assembly, I mentioned the Apprehensions the Indians at Ohio were under from the Menaces of the French, who frequently threatned to attack them for adhering to their Friendship with Us; yet as no Hostilities had then been attempted I was in Hopes, from the Caution and Unani-

mity of the Indians in our Alliance, they might be discouraged from any Undertaking of that kind, But I am now sorry to acquaint You that from the Information I have since received it appears the French are determined at all Events to bring off the Indians from our Alliance. That in Consequence of this Resolution they have been using all possible Artifices to corrupt the Six Nations at Onondago, and have also sent a large and valuable Present to be distributed among the Indians at Ohio; and least these Measures should fail have actually provided at Fort D'Etroit Magazines of Provisions and warlike Stores to be in readiness against the Spring, in order to reduce them by a Body of Forces from Canada; In which Design, should they succeed, it cannot be supposed they will long suffer those Indians to continue in Peace with Us, the fatal Consequences whereof not only to our Trade but even to the Lives and Properties of our remote Inhabitants must be obvious to every considerate Person.

"That the French are resolved at any rate to embroil Us with the the Indians at Ohio is further confirmed by two Persons, Inhabitants of this Province, who were taken Prisoners in May last by Seven French Indians within a few Miles of one of the Twightwee Towns at the Instigation of the French Officer at Fort D'Etroit, to whom they were delivered, and from whom as he was conveying them to Canada they made their Escape.

"Mr. Weiser, our Province Interpreter, is now in Town, being just returned from Onondago, and brings from thence likewise very disagreeable News, to wit, That upon the Death of Canassatego and some other of the Principal Sachems of the Six Nations, who were heartily attached to the English, the Person now at the Head of their Councils is wholly in the French Interest.

"Thus thro' the indefatigable Industry of the French, not only the Six Nations at Onondago are much shaken in their Affections to Us, and inclining to go over to our Rivals, but the Indians at Ohio are in great Danger of being corrupted by their Presents or subdued by their Arms, unless some proper and speedy Measures are taken to prevent it.

"This, Gentlemen, is the present unhappy Situation of our Indian Affairs, according to the best Information I can procure, and tho' it is not usual for You to enter on Business of Importance at Your first Meeting, yet I am persuaded that on Perusal of the Papers I herewith send you, you will think it incumbent on You to take the whole Matter into your immediate Consideration, since any Delay, as things are now circumstanced, may prove of the most dangerous Consequences.'

"Upon what his Excellency Governor Clinton was pleased to write to me on Indians affairs, I imediately directed Mr. Croghan and Mr. Montour to hasten to Ohio with the small Present provided by the late Assembly for the Twightwees, and was in hopes they would arrive time enough to have disappointed the Schemes of the

French, and by shewing those Indians their true Interest have fixed them stedfastly in our Friendship; but unfortunately they were both prevented by Sickness from proceeding on their Journey, so that they are not yet gone. I have given Orders to stay them till I shall be acquainted with the Resolutions of your House on this Subject.

"I therefore earnestly entreat You to give these Affairs all the Attention their Importance requires, and that together with your advice you will likewise furnish the necessary Means of frustrating the mischevous Designs of our Rivals the French, and enable me effectually to preserve the Fidelity and Friendship of our Indians and their allies.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"October 16, 1750."

MEMORANDUM.

The Governor having exceedingly at heart that the Assembly should act a becoming Part towards the Indians, had several Conferences with their Speaker and four or five of the principal Members, and on the nineteenth of October he received the following Message from the House:

"May it Please the Governor:

"As the Prosperity of the Trade of the Province and the Peace and Safety of our remote Inhabitants are essentially concerned in preserving the Indians in our Alliance steady in their Friendship with Us, the House hath deliberately and maturely considered the Governor's Message, with the several Letters and Papers he was pleased to send with it, and having examined our Province Interpreter and likewise the two Persons who have lately escaped from their Imprisonment among the French, we do now with Gratitude acknowledge the Regard and Attention to the Interest of the Province manifested by the Governor on this Occasion.

"We are heartily concerned that the Industry of the French hath met with so much Success with the Indians of the Six Nations, and we doubt not they will carefully improve this Opportunity (given by the Death of Canassatego and the other Chiefs who were our steady Friends) of using many Artifices to alienate the Affections of these Nations from Us, and engage them more closely to the French Interest than they have heretofore been able to do, so that we are sensible there is a Necessity of speedy Measures being immediately taken to avert the unhappy Consequences of losing their Affection and Friendship; and we hope the Care the Governor has taken to inform the Governors of the neighbouring Colonies of the present Disposition of these Indians will be duly regarded. This Province made them a large and valuable Present last Year, and as the Situation and Trade of New York particularly demands

their steady Attention to the maintaining the Alliance and Friendship of these Nations, we doubt not they will think themselves obliged to take the proper Care on this Occasion; And we believing it may be proper to send them a Message of Condolence on the Death of their Sachems, are willing to make the necessary Provision, if the Governor should concur with Us in directing Conrad Weiser to attend the next Treaty at Albany with such a Message.

"The several Nations of Indians about Ohio appear to Us at this time most immediately to merit and stand in need of our Assistance, and as the Governor has informed Us that the Messengers appointed to carry the Present provided by the last Assembly for the Twightwees are not yet set out on their Journey, we have now concluded to make an Addition to that Present, and likewise to direct a Present of larger Value to be provided for the Shawanese, Delawares, Owendats, and other Nations settled near them, in order to confirm them in their Friendship with Us; and as we are informed there are considerable Numbers of those People who are not united in any Government or under any Sachems, which renders it difficult to transact Affairs and treat with them on any Emergency, We submit to the Governor's Consideration the Expediency of recommending to them the Advantage of such an Union, which if it can be effected and maintained without interfering with their Engagements with the Six Nations, may probably discourage the French from any attempts against them, and afford us a greater Opportunity of improving the good Disposition they have lately manifested towards Us, and of keeping them steadily attached to the British Nation.

"The Expences arising on these Negotiations having encreased much of late Years, and being likely to continue, our Duty to the Freemen of this Province obliges Us to repeat the Request made by the Assembly the last Year to the Governor, to recommend to the Proprietaries the Justice of their joining with Us on these Occasions. The Benefits they reap from the Settlement of their back Lands are very great, and tend peculiarly to the Advancement of their private Properties, besides what they have in the common Prosperity of the Province and the Increase of a Trade which enables Us to make Remittances directly to Great Britain; that if there were not any other Considerations, these will, we hope, be sufficient to induce the Proprietaries to bear a Part of these Expences; and as we shall now contribute as much as the present State of our Treasury will permit, we hope on the Governor's Intercession the Proprietaries will readily consent to direct a proper Addition to be made thereto.

"Signed by Order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"19th October, 1750."

To which he made this Answer, and set out for Newcastle:

"Gentlemen:

"I have considered your Message of Yesterday, and am well pleased to find your Determinations so agreeable to what I really think the Interest of the Province at this Time requires; And I shall in the several Particulars recommended by You act conformably to your Advice and Request. The Business of my other Government requiring my presence at Newcastle immediately, I shall appoint a Committee of the Council to act for me during my absence, in Indian Affairs, in order that all possible Dispatch may be given to that Service."

Agreeably to the Governor's Message some of the Members of Council and Assembly were frequently together, the Goods voted for Ohio were provided, Letters were also wrote by the Secretary to Mr. Croghan and Mr. Montour informing them of this, and furnishing them with a List of the Particulars of which the Present consisted, under the Great Seal, with Directions to Mr. Montour to publish it and appoint a meeting of all the Indians early in the Spring.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday the 6th November, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,
Thomas Hopkinson,
Joseph Turner,
William Logan,
Richard Peters.
} Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Record of the Conviction of John Ulrich Sailor, of Upper Hanover in Philadelphia County, Labourer, and Sentence of Death in Consequence thereof pronounced against him by the Supreme Judges at a Court of Oyer and Terminer held at Philadelphia for the County of Philadelphia on the twenty-second Day of October last, having been certified by the Clerk of the Supreme Court, the same was read, and in regard that the Crime was a most cruel Murder committed against the Person of his Mistress, and that the Judges had said nothing in his Favour, Wednesday Sevennight was appointed for his Execution, of which the Secretary is to give Notice to the Sheriff and to the Criminal, and to prepare a Warrant for it.

Pennsylvania 1750

Yet suffer us to inform your Honour, notwithstanding of what was done by us before the Secretary when ... perplexed and confounded, that the most of us did not take up said Land, in opposition to the Authority of a Governors Proclamation, but after we were informed some in Power did permit, if not grant Liberty, to settle said Land with honest men; yet by this we would not be understood, as if we would oppose what proceedings your Honour might judge necessary for the Safety or Interest of the Province, with regard to us. No, in this we resolve to be entirely at your Disposal, or that of any whom you may appoint.

We humbly and earnestly beg, if consistent with the great Designs of your Government, you would ..... permit us yet longer to cultivate these Lands for the Support of our Families.

But if this cannot be granted, that you would interpose with the Proprietors, for our obtaining a Right to these Plantations, on which we at present live; when said Land shall be purchased from the Indians, we paying what is due to the Proprietor, and recommend it to the Secretary to be active for us: on whose mercy we would notwithstanding of all our folly depend much.

And the Blessing of many, who will otherwise be reduced to pinching distressing Difficulties, shall come upon your Honour

Septem: br y 27. 1750

Rob. Smith	John McClellan	Charles Stewart
Roger Murfey	Andrew Donallson	William Dickey
John Jamison	William McCarell	William Mulligan
Samuel Brown	James Campbell	John McCollom
Robert Kendall	James Downney	John McMeans
William McConnell	Alexander McConnell	John Martin

Agreed that in case the Petitioners should presume to continue after the Expiration of the time limited in their respective Recognizances and Bonds they should be prosecuted.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Thursday the 11th of October 1750.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor

Thomas Lawrence, William Logan, Thomas Hopkinson, Richard Peters } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

Conrad Weisers Journal was read and ordered to be entered.

A Journal of the Proceedings of Conrad Weiser, in his Journey to Onondago with a Message from the Honourable Thomas Lee Esquire President of Virginia to the Indians there.

1750 August the fifteenth Set out in the afternoon from my House in Heidlebery and came to Readery on Schuylkill that day - fourteen Miles.
the Sixteenth. Came to Henry Sasseman in Maxatawny - twenty miles.
the Seventeenth Came to Nasareth twenty seven Miles.
the Eighteenth To Nicholas Depui in Smithfield on Delaware, thirty miles.
the Nineteenth To Henry Cortrecht at Minisinks twenty five miles.
the Twentieth To Emanuel Paschal - thirty five Miles.
the Twenty First To Kingston forty four Miles.
the Twenty Second Rained all Day, lay by.
the Twenty Third Crossed Hudsons River for the sake of a better road, rain continued, came to Reinbech .... ten Miles.
the Twenty Fourth Came to the Manor of Livingston. eighteen Miles.
the Twenty Fifth Came to Albany - forty four Miles.
the Twenty Sixth Lay still being Sunday, met Henry Peters and Nichas two Chiefs of the Mohocks, with ... eight more of that Nation, the said Nichas, and two more of that Company, that came from Canada but a few days ago, where they had remained Prisoners till now, complained of hard usage by the French ..... because they had served the English against the French in the late War, contrary to a League of Friendship

subsisting

subsisting between the French and the Six Nations; I spent the Evening with them in a publick house, and treated them with several Bottles of Wine.

August the twenty seventh Spent the forenoon with the said Indians, and conferred with them about my Journey to Onondago, they told me that the Onondagers were most all in the French Interest, and had accepted of the French Religion, and that Colonel Wm Johnson had a Comission from the Governor of Carolina, but named Easaryquouh, to bring about a Peace between the Six Nations and the Catawbas, and had actually made Proposition to the Six Nations about the affair, Henry told me privately, that he did not believe Colonel Johnson could bring the thing about, but if the Governor of Carolina would make him, Henry, a handsome Present, or pay him well for his trouble, he could bring about a Peace between the Six Nations and the Catawbas, he thought that I had that in Commission, and to invite the Six Nation Chiefs to come to Virginia, to make a Peace with the Catawbas.

In the afternoon I left Albany and came to Hordmans Creek ten Miles.

the Twenty Eighth Came to Hunters field, otherwise called Schochary twenty six Miles.

the Twenty Ninth Took a Ride to a small Mohocks Indian Town about eight miles Southwards and conferred with the Indians there, they being my old acquaintance as I had lived from the Year 1714 till the Year 1729 within two miles of their Town; they were very glad to see me, and acquainted me with every thing I desired to know of them; and told me of the bad circumstances with the Six Nations, and that the Onondagers, Cayugers and Senecas were turned Frenchmen, and that some of the Oneiders inclined that way, and that they abused the Mohocks and used them ill for being true to the English, and that the Indian Affairs lay neglected, and no body minded them, and that since the Peace with the French, the Governor of New York never spoke to the Indians, nor offered them any thing, and that the Mohocks themselves who had fought against the French with the loss of much blood received no thanks for their good service.

the Thirtieth Was spent with my old Friends and acquaintance at the aforesaid Place.

the Thirty First I set out through the Woods for the Mohocks Country, it rained the most part of the day, having but a very blind Indian Path was lost, but met accidentally two Indians, who accompanied me to the Mohocks Country where we arrived about an hour after dark, came that day about twenty five miles.

September the First Had a Conference with some of the Chiefs of the Mohocks that live near Fort Hunter; among whom was Brand and Seth, they wanted to know what the Governor of Virginia had to say to the Six Nations of Indians, whether it was any thing about the Catawbas. I told them that I was sure that the Invitation was in consequence of the Treaty of Lancaster held six Years ago, that according to that Treaty the Government of Virginia had recommended the Case of the Six Nations to the King of Great Britain, and that accordingly the King had sent a fine and large Present to be given to the Six Nations. After several other Discourses, I went to Colonel William Johnson, about three miles from Fort Hunter, where I arrived about eleven of the Clock before noon, and was kindly received and hospitably entertained by the Colonel, he is the only and sole Commissioner of Indian Affairs in that Government. I staid twenty four Hours with him, and acquainted him with my Business at Onondago, we had a great deal of discourse about Indian Affairs, he showed me among other Papers relating to Indian Affairs, a Copy of a Letter, the Governor of South Carolina wrote to the Governor of New York, wherein the Governor of New York was desired to bring about a Peace between the Six Nations and the Catawbas, which Affair the Governor of New York had left to Colonel Johnson, who told me that he had already begun his Negotiation, and was in hopes to succeed; the Mohocks having promised him their assistance, that he had undertaken to bring Five, Six, or Seven of the Catawbas to the Mohocks Country or Fort Hunter to speak to the Mohocks first, and to obtain their Safeguard or Protection to travel through the united Nations to Onondago. We both agreed, that it was best for me, not to say any thing about the Catawba's, because he had made, as is to be hoped, a good Beginning.

the Second, About ten of the Clock I left Colonel Johnsons, and came to Cana Johary to Barthol Pickert, twenty five miles. My Horse got lame this day.

the Third, Came to Nicholas Pickert about eight miles. my Horse very lame was obliged to leave him and hire another, and a Man to guide us the road to Onondago.

the Fourth, Came no farther than Burnets-Field, where we got our Horses shoed, and bought some Provision to carry through the Wilderness to Onondago. eighteen miles.

the Fifth, Came to George Cast, the last Settlement of White People on the Mohocks River, was obliged to leave the other Horse I brought from Pennsylvania, and hired another, stayed all night, travelled but twelve miles.

the Sixth, Set out from George Cast's by Sun Rise, came after eleven hours Ride to Oneider about thirty five miles.

It being but a very blind Indian Path and many mud holes to pass, we arrived a little before dark in rainy weather, the Oneider Indians being all at home, they called a Council. the Sovereth. The Council met and let me know that if I had any thing to say to them, they were ready to hear me, I went to the House, where they met with the Messenger that came for me, and acquainted them with what I had in charge from the Governor of Virginia, and desired them to send their Deputies with me to Onondago, to meet the Council of the Six united Nations, which they agreed to do, I desired them to send a Messenger before me to Onondago to acquaint the Onondagers of my coming, with a Message from their Brother. Ysariquoah, and that I desired they might kindle their Council Fire, I gave a String of Wampum to the Messenger that went to Onondago to be sent to the Cayugers and Sinichers, the Messenger set off immediately, the Oneiders desired me to spend that day with them and said, as the Message was gone I had time enough the Council could not meet in less than six or seven days; I agreed to stay with them, the whole day was spent with some of their Chiefs, discoursing about State Affairs, they told me they had heard of my coming some days ago, and were told that I came to invite the Indians to Virginia to treat with the Catawbas about a Peace, under the Protection of Ysaryquoah, I told them that I had nothing to say about the Catawba's, and that the Governor of Virginia had other Affairs to speak with them, given him in charge by the King of Great Britain, concerning the Chain of Friendship between the English and the Six United Nations, that I was well assured they would not see a Catawba there at Fredericksburg, perhaps some mention might be made of them, and perhaps not, they told me that their Brethren the English, had been hitherto deceived by the Catawbas, by looking on them as a People that sue for Peace with the Six United Nations, but they know better. they, the Catawbas had declared to the Tutulons and Cherahees they would never sue for a Peace with the Six United Nations, that they would fight them whilst there was one of them alive, and that after their Death, their very Bones shall fight the Six Nations, and that the Catawbas had murdered some of the Friends of the Six Nations, (the Tutulons and Cherahees) for offering their Mediation, to bring about a Peace with the Six Nations, and that the Catawbas spake with Contempt of the Six Nations, so that they, the Oneiders, wished none of their Brethren the English Governors would meddle with the Affair; if the Catawbas do actually want a Peace with the Six United Nations, let them follow the Example of the Cherahees, and come to our Frontier Towns, and sue for it, and they will obtain it on the same condition as the Cherahees did; I told them, that I supposed the Catawbas, who would venture to come and sue for a Peace, would be killed, because of the Treachery they had been guilty of about twenty Years ago, they answered that several of the Cherahees had been killed by the Allies of the Six Nations in their way to the Sinichers Country, when they first came to sue for a Peace, notwithstanding they proceeded on their Journey, and some arrived in the Sinicher Country, where they were safe and obtained their End, that perhaps such a thing might happen to the Catawbas, by the way they could not help that, but after their arrival at some of the Frontier Towns, they should be saved, they scorned to murder them after their arrival, and if they could not agree with them, they would send them safe to their own Country, and tell 'em that they will send after them, to kill them in the Catawba Country; they, the Six Nations, were too great a People and had too much Honour to kill the Deputies of their Enemies in their Towns. Among other Discourses they told me, they were sorry to acquaint me, that a great Part of the Onondagers had gone over to the French, and accepted of the French Religion, and had suffered themselves to be misled by the French, and the Cunning of their Priests; they said it was by the Neglect of the English, and their ill management, that ever since the Peace the Governor of New York never spoke to them, or gave them any thing, while the French give large Presents to the Onondagers and Others, in order to bring them over to the French, the Indians that served the English in the late War were not well used, some stout Warriours who had the Misfortune to be made Prisoners, were not redeemed by the English, till about a month ago, and were kept in Irons in Canada all along, and had hard usage, that since they came home no body minded them, that some had Wives and Children, and no body took care of them, whilst the Husband or Father was in Prison in Canada, that the French had more Charity for their Indians than the English had to theirs, they seemed to lament over the Division of the Indians as well as over the Division of White People. the Head of the Oneiders Disononto by name, a Man of above seventy Years of Age, but yet strong and nimble, asked me several times, whether I know the

reason

reason of the Governor of New York, and the Great Men of that Province (the Assembly) disagreeing. I told him I did not, and ask'd several other Questions about Publick Affairs that I could not answer. This Disononto ... fought under Colonel Schyler, when the Mohocks Towns were burnt, and were taken Captives by the French in the former Century, and is a man of exceeding great Parts. I sat up with him in my Lodging till almost midnight.

September the eighth I set out for Canachsoragy a Tuscorara Town about eighteen miles off: where I arrived after seven hours ride, met a Messenger from Onondago by the way, by which Messenger the Onondagers did let me know, that they were sorry to acquaint me, that Canassatego their Chief, died the night before last, and that in consequence thereof, there could be no Council summon'd, and they were sorry I came so far, because of the present melancholy time.

NB. It is to be known, that the Six Nations dont meet in Council, when they are in mourning, till some of their Friends or Neighbours, wipe off their Tears, and comfort their Heart, it is a certain ceremony, and if they appear in Council without that Ceremony being performed, the dead Person was of no Credit or Esteem, and it is a certain affront to the deceased's Friends, if he has any.

About an hour after my arrival at Canasoragy, another Messenger arrived from Onondago, to let me know: that notwithstanding the melancholy Event that befel Onondago, the Council had upon a second thought resolved to hear me, because I came such a great way, though contrary to their antient custom, they desired I would proceed on my Journey, and that a Council of the Six Nations was accordingly summon'd.

the Ninth, I set out from Canachsoragy, and arrived after eight hours Ride at Onondago, took up my Lodging as usual, with Tohashwuchdioony, a House which stood now by itself, the Rest of the Onondagers having moved over the Creek, some a mile, two miles, three miles off. Saristaquoah, came to see me, so did Hatachsogo, two Chiefs; an old man, and a Member of the Council, came with me from Canasoragy, he begun to sing a Lamentation Song, just when we set out, to signify to me in an allegorical way, that the Town where I was going to was no more inhabited by such good Friends as formerly, and now more especially, since the Wolf died, meaning Canassatego, the evil Spirits would reign, and bring forth Thorns and Briars out of the Earth, his Name is Gechdachery a Brother of Soterwanachey deceased. at the resting Place I treated him with a Dram of good Rum, and told him, that nothing was certain in the ... World, and that the great Being, that had created the World knew how to govern it, that I believed he would order every thing well, to which he said Amen in his way.

the Tenth, Saristaquoah, came again to see me, the Rest of the Chiefs being in mourning did not appear; the Indians seemed to be much affected with the Death of Canassatego, as they have lost several of their Head Men in a short time, three noted Men died in their Journey to and from Philadelphia, to wit, Tocanihan, Caxhayion and Soterwanachey a Chief.

the Eleventh, Nothing was done, and no Deputies arrived: In my going up, I was told by ... Mr Livingstone at his Manor, and Colonel Johnson in the Mohocks Country, that the French had erected a new Fort at St. Lawrence River, at a Place called Swegatsy, not far from the Lake Frontinac, for the Indians; and that a certain French Priest was there to instruct the Indians in the French Religion, and that he cloathed all the Indians that came to live there, and built Houses, and cleared Land for them at his own, or at the French King's Cost, and that one half of the Onondagers had actually begun to live there. Of all this I was confirmed when I came to Onondago, by several creditable Persons, and by the Council of Onondago itself. with this Addition, that the French Priest at Swegatsy had made about a hundred Converts among the Onondagers, Men, Women and Children that came to live at Swegatsy last Spring, and that the aforesaid French Priest had cloathed them all in very fine Cloathes laced with Silver and Gold and took them down, and presented them to the French Governor at Montreal, who had received them very kindly, and made them large Presents. Several of the said Converts, came back to Onondago, and drank away their fine Cloathes, and reported that the French Priest at Swegatsy was not good, and endeavoured to make Slaves of the Indians, notwithstanding his fine Speeches he makes to the Indians, that in one of them he had told them, ... Onontioquoah the French King did look upon the Indians as his own Children, and would take care, that they should not want, nor no body should hurt them, that he would appoint a great man as a Guardian over them, whom he hoped his Children the Indians would obey as their Father Onontioquoa himself in every respect and that the new Converts should not mind what the unconverted Indians said in their foolish Council, that their Father Onontioquoah would find every thing for them, and protect them against all Nations, so that they had no need of Indian Government. this they interpret that the French want to make Slaves of them, and

in

in a mocking way tell one another - Go and get baptized again by your Father, and bring home fine Cloathes that we may get some drink - No, said another, still joking, he will be hanged now, if he goes again for fine Cloathes, his Father is angry, because his holy water is of no Force with the Indians; many such discourses I have heard, by which I saw plain, that they do not pay any respect to any Religion let it come from where it will, if they do not get by it.

September the Twelfth. No Deputies arrived - I heard that Ontachsina (Jean Caur or some such name) the French Interpreter who resided in the Sinicher Country, during the late War, was gone through the Sinicher Country in his Way to Ohio, with Merchant Goods, and five or six Frenchmen with him, and told the Sinichers that he had Orders from the Governor of Canada to drive away the English Traders from Ohio, with the Assistance of the Indians

the Thirteenth. The Deputies of the Oneiders and Tuscoraros arrived, making in all Five in Number, the Cayugers sent Word that they could not come, so did the Sinichers, the Cayugers having impowered the Oneiders to act in their behalf; the said Deputies and I went out in the Bushes, and had a Council by ourselves over the Death of Canassatego, we agreed to condole with the Onondagers, and to comfort them and wipe off their Tears in the usual way, I gave a large String of Wampum towards the Expence, or for performing the Ceremony, the Oneiders and Tuscoraros did the same, and we nominated Ganachquayeson, a Chief of the Oneiders to be Speaker - About Noon the Council of Onondago met, the Chiefs of the Onondagers now present were: Tahashwruchdioony, Hatachsoge, Gechdachery and Ganodu, with about twenty others. Ganachquayeson opened the Council and desired to be heard as soon as the Council pleased, he was answered that they were ready to hear him immediately - after a short pause, he began to speak, and directed his Discourse to the Onondagers, and said.

Father (to the Oneiders, Caiugers and Tuscoraros stile or address the Onondagers, Sinichers and Mohocks) We your Sons, the Oneiders, Cayugers and Tuscoraros, jointly with your Brother ..... Asaryquoah entred your door, in a very melancholy time, when your Eyes are almost blind with the Tears you shed, and when your Heart is sorrowful to the highest degree, for the Death of that great Man our Lord, who died but the other day (a dead man's name must not be mentioned among those People) we your Sons and your Brother before named, make bold to come near you, in ... order to comfort you in your trouble, and to wipe off the Tears from your Eyes, and to clean ... your Throat, to enable you to see about you, and to speak out again; we also clean the Place where you sit from any deadly Distemper that may remain on it, and might perhaps have been the occasion of the great Man's Death - Here the Speaker gave a String of Wampum of Three ... Rows, in Behalf of the Oneiders, Cayugers and Tuscoraros - I gave another of the same size, with a Belt of Wampum to cover the Grave of the deceased - after a short pause I desired to be heard, to which they answered they were ready to hear me - Then I said, Brethren, the United Six Nations, to wit, Togarihoan, Sagosanagechteront, Dyonenhoguron, Neharontoquoah, ... Sanononvantonvano and Tuscoraro I am sent to your Council Fire, by your Brother Asaryquoah, and what I am going to say to you is according to his Request - I gave a String of Wampum - and proceeded - Brethren, the Governor of Virginia desires that you will come to Frederichsburg, a Town a little way from Cachwangarodon (Patowmec) to a Publick Treaty, and to receive such Presents as the King of Great Britain your Father has ordered to be given to you by the Governor of Virginia, in Consequence of the Treaty of Lancaster, held about Six Years ago - I gave a large String of Wampum - and proceeded - Brethren, the Governor of Virginia will kindle a Council Fire at Frederichsburg in Virginia where you may sit in Safety, as under the Shadow of a great Tree, as at your own Fire at Onondago, to hear what your Brother the Governor of Virginia will say to You, by the Direction of the King of Great Britain your Father, the things that will be said to you will be of Importance, and altogether for the Good of the Publick, especially of the Six United Nations, tending entirely to their Preservation - for the Confirmation of what I have now said to you, your Brother Asaryquoah, the Governor of Virginia gives you this Belt of ..... Wampum - Here I gave a large Belt of Wampum.

I concluded and desired to have their answer that night if possible, I was told, that I should have their answer on the morrow.

By

By Sun set the Onondagers gave thanks for the Condolement, and returned the Compliment by a long Oration, made by Tahashwuchdioony and gave a String of Wampum of three Rows to the Oneiders, Cayugers and Tuscoraros, and one to me, and desired that we may be comforted over the Death of the Great man.
September the Fifteenth, The Indians being in Council all Day, in the evening I was told by three of them that were sent to me, that I should have my Answer, at the Oneider Town on my Return, which they hoped would be satisfactory.
the Sixteenth, According to Custom, I put out the present Council Fire, which was kindled by me, and took my Leave of the Onondagers, and came with the Deputies of the Oneiders and Tuscoraros to . . . Canasoragy before night. I bought a Quart of Rum here for me and my Companions to drink at six Shillings, but the Company being too great, I was obliged to buy two other Quarts.
the Seventeenth, Arrived by rainy weather at Oneido, about two o'Clock in the Afternoon, the Oneidas met immediately in Council, and after about two hours Consultation by themselves, they sent for me, . . and told me that they were ready to give me an answer, and desired me to hear. I told them I was ready to hear. The Speaker directed his Discourse to the Governor of Virginia and said.
Brother Asariquoah, We take your Invitation very kindly, and return you our hearty thanks, we would be very glad to see you, but every time that we have been down with our Brother Onas in Philadelphia, we lost so many men, and last Year we lost Twenty, among which Number were several of our Chiefs. the evil Spirits that dwell among the White People, are against us and kill us, and we are now in a manner like Orphans, all our great and wise men are dead, and as you live so much deeper within the Settlements of the White People, the evil Spirits must needs be more numerous, and of course, will be more destructive to us. We therefore desire, that you will move your Council Fire to Albany, and kindle it there, which can be but very little or no trouble to you; since you have Vessels to come by Water, and at Albany we will gladly hear you, and receive the Presents sent by the Great King over the Waters, for the Lands, some of our former Deputies assigned to you, we desire that you will take our answer in good Part, and come to Albany, to meet us at our Council Fire there burning. the Speaker gave me a large Belt of Wampum.
Brother Asaryquoah, the Belt of Wampum you gave us, concerning your Council Fire, we will answer and exchange, when we shall have the Pleasure to see you in Albany, we will do all that is in our Power to please you. pray consider well our circumstances, and you will then do the just thing. the Speaker gave another smaller String of Wampum.
After some pause I told them, that I believed the Governor of Virginia could not come to Albany, and would perhaps give the Presents to the Indians at Ohio, as the Ohio Indians were one and the same with the Six United Nations, and of their own Blood. they made answer that the Ohio Indians were but Hunters and no Counsellors or Chief Men, and they had no Right to receive Presents that was due to the Six Nations, although they might expect to have a Share, but that Share they must receive from the Six Nation Chiefs, under whom they belong.
I took my Leave and told them, what I had said last was my own thought, and I would let their Brother Asaryquoah know, what had passed as soon as I came home.
the Eighteenth, Set out from Oneido, came to George Cost after Sunset.
the Nineteenth, Came to Burnets-Field in rainy Weather. and the Twentieth to the upper Castle of the Mohocks called Canarvadagy, the said Indians being from home when I went up, they now met, and desired to know what passed at Onondago, and what Success I had. I informed them of every thing, and told them that I found our Brethren the Six Nations, quite of another Disposition, than formerly, and that I had the strongest reason to believe that their Heart . . . was turned from their Brethren the English. They answered that it was true what I said, the French had too great an Interest with the Onondagers, Cayugers and Sinickers. they complained of the ill management of the English in Indian Affairs, and said that they were afraid to be cut off by foresaid Nations, because they charge them the Mohocks, to be Slaves of the English. Several other Complaints they had, but I could say nothing to them.
I recommended John Pickert, my Sisters Son to them for to learn the Mohocks Tongue perfect among them, to serve as Interpreter for Pennsylvania &c^{a} after I am grown old and no more able to travel, they promised to do what they could. the young man speaks their Language tolerable well now, and can write and read English, Dutch and

and Indian, his Father lives but a mile from Canawadagy, and has the best opportunity to learn the Indian Language perfectly.

September the Twenty First, Took my Leave of them, and took my Rout directly towards Shochary, or Hunters-Field by a blind Indian Path, and from the late mentioned Place to Katshill also by a small Indian Path much a nearer way than I went, and arrived at my House on the first Day of October in perfect health.

P. S. The Chiefs of Onondago inquired what was done to the Settlers on their Land near Juniata Creek and thereabout. I told them that the Governor of Pennsylvania had sent his Secretary to the Spot with some Magistrates and Sheriffs to remove the Settlers, that accordingly the People were ordered to come away instantly, some had resisted and taken up Arms, had their Cabbins burned, after the Goods were taken out by the People that came with the Secretary, that some of the People were imprisoned, that to all this I had been an Eye Witness, that some People that seemed to be good natured (upon their Submission and Supplication) had obtained Liberty to gather in their small Crops, but had promised to come away in the Fall, that some of the Shamokin Indians had been present all along, and saw what was done. They signified their Satisfaction to me, and told me they were very glad, that their Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania had taken Notice of their Complaint.

They repeated over and over, that the Indians on Ohio had no Right to sell any Land about Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia or Ohio, and that what Share they might have a Right to demand of the Presents the Six United Nations received for the Land, must be adjusted by the Chiefs of the said Nations, that the Ohio Indians lived on a good Hunting Place, and were in a manner only gone to hunt there, and their Relations at home, received hitherto their Share of the Consideration or Presents for the Lands.

Onondago was thick with French praying Indians when I was there, eight or nine of them came to see me and owned they came from Canada, to see their Friends at Onondago, and behaved very civil to me. I was told by Tahashwuchdioony the Chief, that all the Belts of Wampum belonging to the Publick, from the several English Governors, that remained unanswered at the Death of Canassatego, and found in his Possession, were by his orders burned with him. This the said Chief said, to make Canassatego a Thief after his Death. some imagine, that his Widow and Family stole them.

Conrad Weiser.

the 10th of October 1750.

A Letter from the Governor of New York dated the 8th Instant and Coll Johnson's Letter inclosed were read and ordered to be entered.

A Letter from Governor Clinton to Governor Hamilton.

Sr

I now send you enclosed further Information, which I have received from Coll Johnson, relating to the Designs of the French; though the English Colonies be beyond comparison superior to the French in North America, both in Numbers and Money; yet as the Assemblies of the several Colonies do not act in concert but pursue different Interests, the French may succeed in their designs, to our prejudice, by their being directed by one Council and pursuing steadily the same View.

This, I think, deserves the serious Attention of all the Governors of the Colonies on the main, and I shall gladly join with you and them, in any Method, which may prove effectual for uniting the Colonies in pursuing their general Interest; but I doubt whether this can be effected, without an immediate Application to his Majesty for that purpose.

I am with great Respect

Sr

Your Honours most obedient
and very humble Servant
G. Clinton

Fort George
8th October 1750

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Thursday the 11th of October, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Thomas Hopkinson, } Esqrs.
William Logan, Richard Peters, }

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approv'd.

Conrad Weiser's Journal was read and order'd to be enter'd:

"*A Journal of the Proceedings of Conrad Weiser in his Journey to Onondago, with a Message from the Honourable THOMAS LEE, Esquire, President of Virginia, to the Indians there.*

"1750, August the fifteenth, Set out in the afternoon from my House in Heidleberg and came to Reading on Schuylkill that day—fourteen Miles.

"The Sixteenth—Came to Henry Saseman in Maxatawny—twenty Miles.

"The Seventeenth—Came to Nazareth—twenty-seven Miles.

"The Eighteenth—To Nicholas Depue, in Smithfield on Delaware—thirty miles.

"The Nineteenth—To Henry Cortrecht at Minissinks—twenty-five miles.

"The Twentieth—To Emanuel Paschal—thirty-five miles.

"The Twenty-First—To Kingston—forty-four Miles.

"The Twenty-Second—Rained all Day—lay by.

"The Twenty-Third—Crossed Hudson's River for the sake of a better road—rain continued—came to Reinbeck—ten Miles.

"The Twenty-Fourth—Came to the Manor of Levingston—eighteen Miles.

"The Twenty-Fifth—Came to Albany—forty-four Miles.

"The Twenty-Sixth—Lay still, being Sunday—met Henry Peters and Nickas, two Chiefs of the Mohocks, with eight more of that Nation. The said Nickas and two more of that Company that came from Canada but a few days ago, where they had remained Prisoners till now, complained of hard usage by the French, because they had served the English against the French in the late War, contrary to a League of Friendship subsisting between the French and the Six Nations. I spent the Evening with them in a publick house and treated them with several Bottles of Wine.

"August the twenty-seventh—Spent the forenoon with the said Indians and conferred with them about my Journey to Onondago.

They told me that the Onondagers were most all in the French Interest and had accepted of the French Religion, and that Colonel Wm. Johnson had a Comission from the Governor of Carolina, but named Assaryquoah to bring about a Peace between the Six Nations and the Catawbas, and had actually made Proposition to the Six Nations about the Affair. Henry told me privately that he did not believe Colonel Johnson could bring the thing about; but if the Governor of Carolina would make him, Henry, a handsome Present, or pay him well for his trouble, he could bring about a Peace between the Six Nations and the Catawbas. He thought that I had that in Commission and to invite the Six Nation Chiefs to come to Virginia to make a Peace with the Catawbas. In the Afternoon I left Albany and came to Hordman's Creek—ten miles.

"The Twenty-eight—Came to Huntersfield, otherwise called Schochary—twenty-six miles.

"The Twenty-Ninth—Took a ride to a small Mohock's Indian Town, about eight miles Southwards, and conferred with the Indians there, they being my old acquaintance, as I had lived from the Year 1714 till the Year 1729 within two miles of their Town; they were very glad to see me, and acquainted me with every thing I desired to know of them, and told me of the bad circumstances with the Six Nations, and that the Onondagers, Cayugers, and Seneca's were turned Frenchmen, and that some of the Oneiders inclined that Way, and that they abused the Mohocks and used them ill for being true to the English, and that the Indian Affairs lay neglected and nobody minded them, and that since the Peace with the French the Governor of New York never spoke to the Indians nor offered them anything, and that the Mohocks themselves who had fought against the French with the loss of much blood, received no thanks for their good service.

"The Thirtieth was spent with my old Friends and acquaintance at the aforesaid Place.

"The Thirty-first I set out through the Woods for the Mohocks Country; it rained the most part of the day, having but a very blind Indian Path was lost, but met accidentally two Indians, who accompanied me to the Mohocks Country, where we arrived about an hour after dark; came that day about twenty-five miles.

"September the First—Had a Conference with some of the Chiefs of the Mohocks that live near Fort Hunter, among whom was Brand and Seth; they wanted to know what the Governor of Virginia had to say to the Six Nations of Indians, whether it was anything about the Catawbas. I told them that I was sure that the Invitation was in consequence of the Treaty of Lancaster held six years ago; that according to that treaty the Government of Virginia had recommended the Case of the Six Nations to the King of Great Britain, and that accordingly the King had sent a fine and large Present to be given to the Six Nations. After several other

Discourses I went to Colonel William Johnson, about three miles from Fort Hunter, where I arrived about eleven of the Clock before noon, and was kindly received and hospitably entertained by the Colonel; he is the only and sole Commissioner of Indian Affairs in that Government. I staid twenty-four Hours with him, and acquainted him with my Business at Onondago; we had a great deal of discourse about Indian Affiairs; he showed me, among other Papers relating to Indian Affairs, a Copy of a Letter the Governor of South Carolina wrote to the Governor of New York, wherein the Governor of New York was desired to bring about a Peace between the Six Nations and the Catawbas, which Affair the Governor of New York had left to Colonel Johnson, who told me that he had already begun his Negociation and was in hopes to succeed, the Mohocks having promised him their assistance; that he had undertaken to bring Five, Six, or Ten of the Catawbas to the Mohocks Country or Fort Hunter, to speak to the Mohocks first and to obtain their Safeguard or Protection to travel through the united Nations to Onondago. We both agreed that it was best for me not to say any thing about the Catawbas, because he had made, as is to be hoped, a good Beginning.

"The Second, about ten of the Clock, I left Colonel Johnson's and came to Cana Johary, to Barthol Pickert, twenty-five miles. My horse got lame this day.

"The Third—Came to Nicholas Pickert, about eight miles, my Horse very lame; was obliged to leave him and hire another, and a Man to guide us the road to Onondago.

"The Fourth—Came no farther than Burnets-Field, where we got our horses shoed and bought some Provision to carry through the Wilderness to Onondago, eighteen miles.

"The Fifth—Came to George Cost, the last Settlement of White People on the Mohocks River; was obliged to leave the other Horse I brought from Pennsylvania and hired another; stayed all night; travelled but twelve miles.

"The Sixth—Set out from George Cost's by Sun Rise; came after eleven hours Ride to Oneider, about thirty-five miles. It being but a very blind Indian Path and many mud holes to pass, we arrived a little before dark in rainy weather; the Oneider Indians being all at home, they called a Council.

"The Seventh—The Council met and let me know that if I had anything to say to them, they were ready to hear me. I went to the House where they met with the Messenger that came for me, and acquainted them with what I had in charge from the Governor of Virginia, and desired them to send their Deputies with me to Onondago to meet the Council of the Six united Nations, which they agreed to do. I desired them to send a Messenger before me to Onondago to acquaint the Onondagers of my coming with a Mess-

age from their Brother Assariquoah, and that I desired they might kindle their Council Fire. I gave a String of Wampum to the Messenger that went to Onondago to be sent to the Cayugers and Senickers; the Messenger set off immediately; the Oneiders desired me to spend that day with them and said as the Message was gone I had time enough; the Council could not meet in less than six or seven days. I agreed to stay with them; the whole day was spent with some of their Chiefs discoursing about State Affairs; they told me they had heard of my coming some days ago, and were told that I came to invite the Indians to Virginia to treat with the Catawbas about a Peace, under the Protection of Assaryquoah. I told them I had nothing to say about the Catawbas, and that the Governor of Virginia had other Affairs to speak with them given him in charge by the King of Great Britain, concerning the Chain of Friendship between the English and the Six United Nations; that I was well assured they would not see a Catawba there at Fredericksburg; perhaps some mention might be made of them, and perhaps not; they told me that their Brethren the English had been hitherto deceived by the Catawbas, by looking on them as a People that sue for Peace with the Six United Nations, but they know better; they (the Catawbas) had declared to the Tutulows and Cherakees they would never sue for a Peace with the Six United Nations, that they would fight them whilst there was one of them alive, and that after their Death their very Bones shall fight the Six Nations, and that the Catawbas had murdered some of the Friends of the Six Nations (the Tutulows and Cherakees) for offering their Mediation to bring about a Peace with the Six Nations, and that the Catawbas spake with Contempt of the Six Nations, so that they the Oneiders wished none of their Brethren the English Governors would meddle with the Affair; if the Catawbas do actually want a Peace with the Six United Nations, let them follow the Example of the Cherakees and come to our Frontier Towns and sue for it, and they will obtain it on the same condition as the Cherakees did. I told them that I supposed the Catawbas who would venture to come and sue for a Peace would be killed, because of the Treachery they had been guilty of about twenty Years ago; they answered that several of the Cherakees had been killed by the Allies of the Six Nations in their way to the Sinickers' Country when they first came to sue for a Peace, notwithstanding they proceeded on their Journey and some arrived in the Sinicker Country, where they were safe and obtained their End, that perhaps such a thing might happen to the Catawbas; by the way they could not help that, but after their arrival at some of the Frontier Towns they should be saved; they scorned to murder them after their arrival, and if they could not agree with them they would send them safe to their own Country, and tell 'em that they will send after them, to kill them in the Catawba Country; they the Six Nations were too great a People and had too much Honour to kill the Deputies of their Ene-

mies in their Towns. Among other Discourses they told me they were sorry to acquaint me that a great Part of the Onondagers had gone over to the French and accepted of the French Religion, and had suffered themselves to be misled by the French and the Cunning of their Priests; they said it was by the neglect of the English and their ill-management that ever since the Peace the Governor of New York never spoke to them or gave them any thing, while the French gave large Presents to the Onondagers and Others in order to bring them over to the French; the Indians that served the English in the late War were not well used, some stout Warriours who had the Misfortune to be made Prisoners were not redeemed by the English till about a month ago and were kept in Irons in Canada all along and had hard usage, that since they came home no body minded them, that some had Wives and Children and no body took care of them whilst the Husband or Father was in Prison in Canada, that the French had more Charity for their Indians than the English had to their's, they seemed to lament over the Division of the Indians as well as over the Division of White People; the Head of the Oneiders, Disononto by name, a Man of above seventy Years of Age, but yet strong and nimble, asked me several times whether I knew the reason of the Governor of New York and the Great Men of that Province (the Assembly) disagreeing. I told him I did not, and ask'd several other Questions about Publick Affairs that I could not answer. This Disononto fought under Colonel Schyler when the Mohock's Towns were burnt and were taken Captives by the French in the former Century, and is a man of exceeding great Parts. I sat up with him in my Lodging till almost midnight.

"September the eighth—I set out for Canachsoragy, a Tuscarora Town about eighteen miles off, where I arrived after seven hours ride, met a Messenger from Onondago by the way, by which Messenger the Onondagers did let me know that they were sorry to acquaint me that Canassatego, their Chief, died the night before last, and that in consequence thereof there could be no Council summon'd, and they were sorry I came so far because of the present melancholy time.

"N. B.—It is to be known that the Six Nations don't meet in Council when they are in mourning till some of their Friends or Neighbours wipe off their Tears and comfort their Heart; it is a certain ceremony, and if they appear in Council without that Ceremony being performed, the dead Person was of no Credit or Esteem, and it is a certain affront to the deceased's Friends, if he has any.

"About an hour after my arrival at Canasoragy another Messenger arrived from Onondago to let me know that notwithstanding the melancholy Event that befel Onondago, the Council had upon a second thought resolved to hear me, because I came such a great way, though contrary to their antient custom they desired I would proceed on my Journey, and that a Council of the Six Nations was accordinly summon'd.

"The Ninth—I set out from Canachsoragy and arrived after eight hours Ride at Onondago, took up my Lodging as usual with Tohash-wuchdioony, a House which stood now by itself, the Rest of the Onondagers having moved over the Creek, some a mile, two miles, three miles off. Saristaquoah came to see me, so did Hatachsogo, two Chiefs; an old man and a Member of the Council came with me from Canasoragy; he begun to sing a Lamentation Song just when we set out, to signify to me in an allegorical way that the Town where I was going to was no more inhabited by such good Friends as formerly, and now more especially since the *Word* died, meaning Canassatego, the evil Spirits would reign and bring forth Thorns and Briars out of the Earth; his name is Gechdachery, a Brother of Soterwanachty, deceased; at the resting Place I treated him with a Dram of good Rum, and told him that nothing was certain in the World, and that the great Being that had created the World knew how to govern it, that I believed he would order every thing well, to which he said Amen in his way.

"The Tenth—Saristaquoah came again to see me; the Rest of the Chiefs being in Mourning did not appear; the Indians seemed to be much affected with the Death of Canassatego, as they have lost several of their Head Men in a short time; three noted Men died in their Journey to and from Philadelphia, to wit: Tocanihan, Cax-hayion, and Soterwanachty, a Chief.

"The Eleventh—Nothing was done and no Deputies arrived. In my going up I was told by Mr. Livingstone at his Manor and Colonel Johnson in the Mohocks Country, that the French had erected a new Fort at St. Lawrence River at a Place called Swegatsy, not far from the Lake Frontinac, for the Indians, and that a certain French Priest was there to instruct the Indians in the French Religion, and that he cloathed all the Indians that came to live there, and built Houses and cleared Land for them at his own or at the French King's Cost, and that one-half of the Onondagers had actually begun to live there. Of all this I was confirmed when I came to Onondago by several creditable Persons and by the Council of Onondago itself, with this Addition, that the French Priest at Swegatsy had made about a hundred Converts among the Onondagers, Men, Women, and Children, that came to live at Swegatsy last Spring, and that the aforesaid French Priest had cloathed them all in very fine Cloathes, laced with Silver and Gold, and took them down and presented them to the French Governor at Montreal, who had received them very kindly and made them large Presents. Several of the said Converts came back to Onondago and drank away their fine Cloathes and reported that the French Priest at Swegatsy was not good and endeavoured to make Slaves of the Indians, notwithstanding his Fine Speeches he makes to the Indians, that in one of them he had told them Onontiquoah, the French King, did look upon the Indians as his own Children, and would take care that they should

not want nor no body should hurt them, that he would appoint a great man as a Guardian over them, whom he hoped his Children the Indians would obey as their Father Onontiquoa himself in every respect, and that the new Converts should not mind what the unconverted Indians said in their foolish Council, that their Father Onontiquoah would find everything for them and protect them against all Nations, so that they had no need of Indian Government; this they interpret that the French want to make Slaves of them, and in a mocking way tell one another, 'Go and get baptized again by your Father and bring home fine Cloathes that we may get some drink.' 'No,' said another, still joking, 'he will be hanged now if he goes again for fine Cloathes; his Father is angry because his holy water is of no Force with the Indians;' many such discourses I have heard, by which I saw plain that they do not pay any respect to any Religion let it come from where it will, if they do not get by it.

"September the Twelfth—No Deputies arrived. I heard that Ontachsina (Jean Cœur or some such name), the French Interpreter who resided in the Sinicker Country during the late War, was gone through the Sinicker Country in his Way to Ohio, with Merchant Goods and five or six Frenchmen with him, and told the Sinickers that he had Orders from the Governor of Canada to drive away the English Traders from Ohio with the Assistance of the Indians.

"The Thirteenth—The Deputies of the Oneiders and Tuscoraros arrived, making in all Five in Number, the Cayugers sent Word that they could not come, so did the Sinickers, the Cayugers having impowdered the Oneiders to act in their behalf; the said Deputies and I went out in the Bushes and had a Council by ourselves over the Death of Canassetego; we agreed to condole with the Onondagers, and to comfort them and wipe off their Tears in the usual way; I gave a large String of Wampum towards the Expence or for performing the Ceremony, the Oneiders and Tuscoraros did the same, and we nominated Ganachquayieson, a Chief of the Oneiders, to be Speaker. About noon the Council of Onondago met, the Chiefs of the Onondagers now present were Tahashwuchdioony, Hatachsogo, Gechdachery, and Ganodu, with about twenty others. Ganachquayieson opened the Council and desired to be heard so soon as the Council pleased, he was answered that they were ready to hear him immediately; After a short pause he begun to speak and directed his Discourse to the Onondagers, and said:

"'*Father* (so the Oneiders, Cayugers, and Tuscoraros stile or address the Onondagers, Sinickers, and Mohocks), We, your Sons, the Oneiders, Cayugers, and Tuscoraros, jointly with your Brother Assaryquoah, entred your door in a very melancholy time, when your Eyes were almost blind with the Tears you shed, and when your Heart is sorrowful to the highest degree for the Death of that great Man our Word, who died but the other day (a dead man's name

must not be mentioned among those People); we, your Sons and your Brother before named, make bold to come near you in order to comfort you in your trouble and to wipe off the Tears from your Eyes, and to clean your Throat, to enable you to see about you and to speak out again; we also clean the Place where you sit from any deadly Distemper that may remain on it, and might perhaps have been the occasion of the great Man's Death.' Here the Speaker gave a String of Wampum of Three Rows in Behalf of the Onciders, Cayugers, and Tuscoraros; I gave another of the same size, with a Belt of Wampum to cover the Grave of the deceased. After a short pause I desired to be heard, to which they answered they were ready to hear me. Then I said, '*Brethren*, the United Six Nations, to wit, Togarihoan, Sagosanagechteront, Dyionenhogaron, Neharontoquoah, Sanonowantowano, and Tuscoraro, I am sent to your Council Fire by your Brother Assaryquoah, and what I am going to say to you is according to his Request.' I gave a String of Wampum and proceeded: '*Brethren*, the Governor of Virginia desires that you will come to Fredericksburg, a Town a little way from Cachwangarodon (Patowmec), to a Publick Treaty, and to receive such Presents as the King of Great Britain, your Father, has ordered to be given to you by the Governor of Virginia, in Consequence of the Treaty of Lancaster held about Six Years ago.' I gave a large String of Wampum and proceeded: '*Brethren*, the Governor of Virginia will kindle a Council Fire at Fredericksburg in Virginia, where you may sit in Safety as under the Shadow of a great Tree, as at your own Fire at Onondago, to hear what your Brother the Governor of Virginia will say to You by the Direction of the King of Great Britain, your Father; the things that will be said to you will be of Importance and altogether for the Good of the Publick, especially of the Six United Nations, tending entirely to their Preservation. For the Confirmation of what I have now said to you, your Brother Assaryquoah, the Governor of Virginia, gives you this Belt of Wampum.' Here I gave a large Belt of Wampum.

"I concluded, and desired to have their answer that night if possible; I was told that I should have their answer on the morrow.

"By Sun set the Onondagers gave thanks for the Condolement, and returned the Compliment by a long Oration made by Tahashwuchdiony, and gave a String of Wampum of three Rows to the Oneiders, Cayugers, and Tuscoraros, and one to me, and desired that we may yet be comforted over the Death of the Great Man.

"September the Fifteenth—The Indians being in Council all Day, in the evening I was told by three of them that were sent to me that I should have my Answer at the Oneider's Town on my Return, which they hoped would be satisfactory.

"The Sixteenth—According to Custom I put out the present Council Fire which was kindled by me and took my Leave of the Onondagers and come with the Deputies of the Oneiders and Tus-

coraros to Canasoragy before night. I bought a Quart of Rum here for me and my Companions to drink at six Shillings, but the Company being too great I was obliged to buy two other Quarts.

"The Seventeenth—Arrived by rainy weather at Oneide about two o'Clock in the Afternoon, the Oneiders met immediately in Council and after about two hours Consultation by themselves, they sent for me and told me that they were ready to give me an answer and desired me to hear; I told them I was ready to hear. The Speaker directed his Discourse to the Governor of Virginia and said:

"'*Brother Assaryquoah*:—We take your Invitation very kindly, and return you our hearty thanks, we would be very glad to see you but every time that we have been down with our Brother *Onas* in Philadelphia we lost so many men, and last Year we lost Twenty, among which Number were several of our Chiefs; the evil Spirits that Dwell among the White People are against us and kill us, and we are now in a manner like Orphans, all our great and wise men are dead and as you live so much deeper within the Settlements of the White People the evil Spirits must needs be more numerous and of course will be more destructive to us. We therefore desire that you will move your Council Fire to Albany and kindle it there, which can be but very little or no trouble to you since you have Vessels to come by Water, and at Albany we will gladly hear you and receive the Presents sent by the Great King over the Waters for the Lands some of our former Deputies assigned to You; we desire that you will take our answer in good Part and come to Albany to meet us at our Council Fire there burning.' The Speaker gave me a large Belt of Wampum.

"'*Brother Assaryquoah*: the Belt of Wampum you gave us concerning your Council Fire we will answer and exchange when we shall have the pleasure to see you in Albany, we will do all that is in our Power to please you, pray consider well our circumstances and you will then do the just thing.' The Speaker gave another smaller string of wampum.

"After some pause I told them that I believ'd the Governor of Virginia could not come to Albany and would perhaps give the Presents to the Indians at Ohio, as the Ohio Indians were one and the same with the Six United Nations and of their own Blood. They made answer that the Ohio Indians were but Hunters and no Counsellors or Chief Men, and they had no Right to receive Presents that was due to the Six Nations, although they might expect to have a Share, but that Share they must receive from the Six Nations' Chief under whom they belong.

"I took my Leave and told them what I had said last was my own thought and I would let their Brother Assaryquoah know what had passed as soon as I came home.

"The Eighteenth—Set out from Oneido, came to George Cost after Sunset.

"The Nineteenth—Came to Burnet's Field in rainy Weather, and the Twentieth to the upper Castle of the Mohocks called Canawadagy, the said Indians being from home when I went up they now met and desired to know what passed at Onondago and what success I had. I informed them of every thing and told them that I found our Brethren the Six Nations quite of another Disposition than formerly, and that I had the strongest reason to believe that their Heart was turned from their Brethren the English. They answered that it was true what I said, the French had too great an Interest with the Onondagers, Cayugers, and Sinickers, they complained of the ill management of the English in Indian Affairs, and said that they were afraid to be cut off by foresaid Nations because they charge them the Mohocks to be Slaves of the English; Several other Complaints they had but I could say nothing to them.

"I recommended John Picket, my Sister's Son, to them for to learn the Mohocks Tongue perfect among them, to serve as Interpreter for Pennsylvania, &ca. after I am grown old and no more able to travel, they promised to do what they could; the young man speaks their Language tolerable well now and can write and read English, Dutch, and Indian, his Father lives but a mile from Canawadagy, and has the best opportunity to learn the Indian Language perfectly.

"September the Twenty First—Took my leave of them and took my Route directly towards Shochary, or Hunter's Field, by a blind Indian Path and from the late mentioned Place to Katskill also by a small Indian Path much a nearer way than I went, and arrived at my House on the first Day of October in perfect health.

"P. S.—The Chiefs of Onondago inquired what was done to the Settlers on their Land near Juniata Creek and thereabout; I told them that the Governor of Pennsylvania had sent his Secretary to the spot with some Magistrates and Sheriff's to remove the Settlers, that accordingly the People were ordered to come away instantly, some had resisted and taken up Arms, had their Cabbins burned after the Goods were taken out by the People that came with the Secretary, that some of the People were imprisoned, that to all this I had been an Eye Witness, that some People that seemed to be good natured (upon their Submission and Supplication) had obtained Liberty to gather in their small Crops but had promised to come away in the Fall, that some of the Shamokin Indians had been present all along and saw what was done. They signified their Satisfaction to me, and told me they were very glad that their Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania had taken Notice of their Complaint.

"They repeated over and over that the Indians on Ohio had no Right to sell any Land about Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, or Ohio, and that what Share they might have a Right to demand of the Presents the Six United Nations received for the Land must be adjusted by the Chiefs of the said Nations, that the Ohio Indians

lived on a good Hunting Place and were in a manner only gone to hunt there, and their Relations at home received hitherto their Share of the Consideration or Presents for the Lands.

"*Onondago* was thick with French praying Indians when I was there; eight or nine of them came to see me, and owned they came from Canada to see their Friends at Onondago, and behaved very civil to me. I was told by Tahashronchdioony the Chief, that all the Belts of Wampum belonging to the Publick from the several English Governors that remained unanswered at the Death of Canassatego, and found in his Possession, were by his orders burned with him. This the said Chief said to make Canassatogo a Thief after his Death; some imagine that his Widow and Family stole them.

"CONRAD WEISER.

"The 10th of October, 1750."

A Letter from the Governor of New York, dated the 8th Instant, and Coll. Johnson's letter inclosed, were read and ordered to be enter'd:

A Letter from Governor Clinton to Governor Hamilton.

"S^{r}:

"I now send you enclosed further Information which I have received from Coll. Johnson, relating to the Designs of the French; though the English Colonies be, beyond comparison, superior to the French in North America, both in Numbers and Money, yet as the Assemblies of the several Colonies do not act in concert, but pursue different Interests, the French may succeed in their designs to our prejudice by their being directed by one Council and pursuing steadily the same View.

"This I think deserves the serious Attention of all the Governors of the Colonies on the Main, and I shall gladly join with you and them in any Method which may prove effectual for uniting the Colonies in pursuing their general Interest, but I doubt whether this can be effected without an immediate Application to his Majesty for that purpose.

"I am, with great Respect, Sir, Your Honour's most obedient and very humble Servant.

"G. CLINTON.

"FORT GEORGE, 8th October, 1750."

—

Copy of a Letter to his Excellency Governor Clinton from Coll. William Johnson.

"76^{r}. 25th, 1750.

"May it please your Excellency:

"This is to acquaint your Excellency that the bearers hereof are

two Englishmen belonging to Pennsylvania Government, and as they were trading among the Indians of Ohio River last Summer as usual, were taken Prisoners by Seven Indians sent by the Commanding Officer of Detroit for said purpose, and by him detained ever since the beginning of last June; it plainly appears by all the Circumstances that he, the said Officer, sent the Indians to take or destroy what English Men they could meet, as the Indians told those young men so, and shewed them the Ammunition, Tobacco, &c., which the said Officer gave them for their Journey, and when they brought said Prisoners to him he was very thankful and rewarded them well, which said Prisoners were Eye Witness to. He being relieved by another Officer, took those two Prisoners with him in order to bring them to Quebec, but they luckily made their Escape from him halfway between Niagara and Oswego, from whence they came to me quite in a miserable naked Condition. They say the French are making all the Preparations possible against the Spring to destroy some Nations of Indians very steadfast in our Interest, which if they succeed in will be of very bad Consequence; they met in the Lake ten or twelve large Battoes laden with Stores and Ammunition for said Purpose, with whom were several Officers, in particular two Sons of one of their Lieutenant Governors, whom I suppose to be Monsieur Longquilles' Sons. Certainly they have something in agitation which they want to put in Execution as soon as they can, having Accounts from several Hands lately which corroborate. Those two men say that the French at De Troit and thereabout have offered and given some Indians great Presents to go and take or destroy one Mr. Croghan and Lowry, two of the Chief Men who trade from Pennsylvania, and have the most Influence on all Indians living thereabouts of any that ever went among them, or in all likelihood ever may. Should they succeed therein it would certainly be a great step towards their gaining them Indians, who are as yet very strongly attached to the British Interest, and double the Number of the Five Nations. Moreover if the French go on so, there is no man can be safe in his own house, for I can at any time get an Indian to kill any Man for paying of him a small matter; their going on in that manner is worse than an open War. Jean Ceur, whom I mentioned to your Excellency some time ago is now gone among said Ohio Indians in order to spirit them up against the English. I wish he may meet with his proper Deserts. I hope your Excellency will pardon my troubling you with so long a Detail of this kind, but as I thought it my Duty to acquaint You of every thing may come to my Knowledge relating to the Service of the Province, hope you will excuse it, and believe me to be with all Sincerity and Esteem,

"Sir, Your Excellency's most obedient Servant.

"WILLIAM JOHNSON.

"P. S. I should have been to wait on your Excellency long ago, but was much out of order as was most of my Family, having eleven sick at once with a violent cold and sore Throat which raged here very much.

"NEW YORK."

"A true Copy Examin'd by

"GEO. BANYAR, D. Sec'ry."

The Examinations of Morris Turner and Ralph Kilgore were taken in Council, and being sworn to, were ordered to be enter'd as follows:

"These Examinants say that they are hired Servants of one John Frazier, of the County of Lancaster, in the Province of Pennsylvania, Indian Trader; that in May last they were trading for him among the Twightwees to whom they had sold a large quantity of Goods, and had received in Return more Skins than they could carry with their Horses at one time; that after having delivered one Parcel of their Skins at Allegheny, as they were returning for a Second with empty Horses, and were got within Twenty-Five Miles, as they think, of the Twightwee's Town, on the Twenty-Sixth Day of May last, Seven Indians came into their Cabins a little before Sun-set, received Victuals from them, and dress'd and eat it, and behaved like Friends. That some time after their coming into the Cabin the Indians in the way of curiosity took up the Guns belonging to these Examinants and a Tomhock, and ask'd them for Knives to cut their Tobacco with, which as soon as they had given them they seized them and tied their Hands with Ropes, and told them they must carry them to their Fathers the French, and, accordingly, they took them along with them, pinioning them in the day and fast'ning them in the Night with Ropes to the Ground; that they did not go the direct Road to Fort De Troit, but went round about ways, for that they did not reach it in less than sixteen Days, though from the Place where they were taken it is not as they think above one hundred and fifty miles. That all the way they were very inquisitive about the Courses of the Road and of the Waters between the Twightwee Country and the Allegheny Towns, and made these Examinants draw Draughts of those Roads and Waters. That when they came about a mile from the Fort they unpinioned them and marched them into the Town called De Troit, consisting of one hundred and fifty Houses stockaded all round.

"That on their Arrival at the Town more Indians join'd them, when a Council was imediately convened by the Commander of the Fort, in which the Indians gave a formal Account of their taking these Examinants Prisoners, delivered them to the Commander in

Council, and received some Presents in reward of their Services, vizt: a ten gallon Cag of Brandy and about one hundred Pound Weight of Tobacco.

"That the Commander of the Fort sent them to a Farmer's House about a mile from the town, where they were made to reap Wheat and how Indian Corn, and work Country Work. That about six Days after they were placed there the Indians who took them came to see them, and treated them very contemptuously, flirting their Fingers against their Noses and saying they were Dogs, and they were going for more of them. That they remained in this Farmer's House about three Months, when there arrived a new Commander, one Monsieur Celeron, the same Officer who the Year before had commanded a Detachment of French Soldiers sent to Ohio with design to intimidate those Indians and the Twightwees.

"That about three Weeks before their leaving the Farmer's House one of the Garrison Soldiers came to visit them along with two or three others who talked English. This Soldier told them that he was but just come to the Fort, having been taken Prisoner by the Catawbas, who carried him to Williamsburg, where he was treated very civilly and permitted to go home, and that he came through Philadelphia and New York, and was every where entertained much to his satisfaction; and hearing that there were two English Men Prisoners at that house he came to see them, and in Confidence told them that in the Spring an Army of Five Hundred French Men would march to Ohio, and either bring back the Shawanese and Owendats or kill them, and that they had offered One Thousand Dollars for the Scalps of George Croghan and James Lowry, imagining if they were taken off as they had great Influence with the Ohio Indians they could easily gain over those Indians to them.

"That the late Commander of the Fort departing for Canada, they were committed to his Care, and in fourteen Days arrived at Niagara, where they found one Jean Ceur, the Head Interpreter for the French at Quebec, conducting, as they were inform'd, a large Present of Goods to Ohio which lay upon the Bank, and which they believ'd if they were to be bought in Philadelphia could not cost less than Fifteen Hundred Pounds.

"These Examinants likewise saw at this Place eight or nine Batteaus laden with Bacon, Peas, and Flower, which they were told were to be stored in the Magazines at Fort De Troit for the use of the Spring Expedition.

"That somewhere between Niagara and Oswego, on Lake Frontiniac, these Examinants made their Escape in the night time, the Persons appointed for their Guard being asleep, and got safe to

the Fort of Oswego, and from thence came by New York to this Place.

his
"MORRIS M T TURNER.
mark.
"RALPH KILLGORE."

"Sworn before the Governor in Council.

"RICHARD PETERS, Secretary."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Wednesday the 10th October, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,	Samuel Hasell,	Esqrs.
Benjamin Shoemaker,	Joseph Turner,	
Thomas Hopkinson,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approv'd.

Six Members of Assembly waited on the Governor last night with a Message from the House, that pursuant to the Charter and Laws of the Province a Quorum of the Representatives had met and chose a Speaker, and desir'd to know when he wou'd be pleased to receive them that they might present him. By the Appointment of the Governor the whole House came into the Council Chamber and presented Isaac Norris, Esquire, as their Speaker, Who, having made the Request for Privileges as usual, and received the Governor's Approbation and favourable Answer, they withdrew.

The Governor informed the Board that he had communicated the Intelligences relating to Indian Affairs to the Governments of Virginia and Maryland, with his earnest Request that they wou'd lay the same before their respective Assemblies, and recommend to them to consider the Contents thereof that such measures might be taken by their Colonies, either separately or in Conjunction with New York, as might prevent the Defection of the Indians, which was much to be apprehended.

The following Message drawn in order to be sent to the Assembly was read and approved:

"Gentlemen:

"In my Message of the eighth of August to the late Assembly, I mentioned the Apprehensions the Indians at Ohio were under from the Menaces of the French, who frequently threatned to attack them for adhering to their Friendship with Us; yet as no Hostilities had then been attempted I was in Hopes, from the Caution and Unani-

mity of the Indians in our Alliance they might be discouraged from any Undertaking of that kind, But I am now sorry to acquaint You that from the Information I have since received it appears the French are determined at all Events to bring off the Indians from our Alliance. That in Consequence of this Resolution they have been using all possible Artifices to corrupt the Six Nations at Onondago, and have also sent a large and valuable Present to be distributed among the Indians at Ohio; and least these Measures should fail have actually provided at Fort D'Etroit Magazines of Provisions and warlike Stores to be in readiness against the Spring, in order to reduce them by a Body of Forces from Canada; In which Design, should they succeed, it cannot be supposed they will long suffer those Indians to continue in Peace with Us, the fatal Consequences whereof not only to our Trade but even to the Lives and Properties of our remote Inhabitants must be obvious to every considerate Person.

"That the French are resolved at any rate to embroil Us with the the Indians at Ohio is further confirmed by two Persons, Inhabitants of this Province, who were taken Prisoners in May last by Seven French Indians within a few Miles of one of the Twightwee Towns at the Instigation of the French Officer at Fort D'Etroit, to whom they were delivered, and from whom as he was conveying them to Canada they made their Escape.

"Mr. Weiser, our Province Interpreter, is now in Town, being just returned from Onondago, and brings from thence likewise very disagreeable News, to wit, That upon the Death of Canassatego and some other of the Principal Sachems of the Six Nations, who were heartily attached to the English, the Person now at the Head of their Councils is wholly in the French Interest.

"Thus thro' the indefatigable Industry of the French, not only the Six Nations at Onondago are much shaken in their Affections to Us, and inclining to go over to our Rivals, but the Indians at Ohio are in great Danger of being corrupted by their Presents or subdued by their Arms, unless some proper and speedy Measures are taken to prevent it.

"This, Gentlemen, is the present unhappy Situation of our Indian Affairs, according to the best Information I can procure, and tho' it is not usual for You to enter on Business of Importance at Your first Meeting, yet I am persuaded that on Perusal of the Papers I herewith send you, you will think it incumbent on You to take the whole Matter into your immediate Consideration, since any Delay, as things are now circumstanced, may prove of the most dangerous Consequences.

"Upon what his Excellency Governor Clinton was pleased to write to me on Indians affairs, I imediately directed Mr. Croghan and Mr. Montour to hasten to Ohio with the small Present provided by the late Assembly for the Twightwees, and was in hopes they would arrive time enough to have disappointed the Schemes of the

Conrad Weyser's Journal to Montago

to

August 15. 1750

		Mil.
	[illegible]	
	[illegible] meeting	
	[illegible]	16.
11.	[illegible]	20.
12.	Came to Nutmeg	21.
13.	Nicholas Depuy's Mill plaid en Delaware	20.
19.	Henry Conrad at Minsing	24.
20.	to Emanuel Pastal	24.
21.	to Kingston	44.
22.	Rained all Day long by	
23.	Crossed Hudsons River to the Side of a Hill, Great Kill continues came to Rainbeck	18.
24.	Came to the Manner of Livingston	18.
25.	Came to Albany	40.
26.	Lay still being Sunday, met Henry Peters & Nicks, the Chief of the Mohocks with Eight more of that Nation, the said Nicks and two more of the Company, came from	

A Journal, of the Proceedings, of Conrad Weiser

In his Journey to Onondago, with a Message from the Honourable Thomas Lee, Esquire, President of Virginia, to the Indians there

1737. August		Miles
the 15.	Set out in the afternoon from my House in Hoppelberg and came to Reading on Saukill that Day	16.
the 16.	Came to Henry Lasenan, in Maxidany	20.
the 17.	Came to Nazareth	17.
the 18.	To Nicklas Depuy, in Smithfield on Delaware	30.
the 19.	To Henry Centbeck at Minesing	24.
the 20.	To Emanuel Marshal	36.
the 21.	To Kingstown	46.
the 22.	Rained all Day lay by	
the 23.	Crossed Hudsons River for the sake of better Road, but continued came to Kinbeck	10.
the 24.	Came to the Manner of Livingstone	10.
the 25.	Came to Albany	46.
the 26.	Lay still being Sunday, met Henry Peters & Nicklas, the Chiefs of the Mohocks with Eight more of that Nation, the said Nicklas and two more of the Company, came from	

Canada but a few days ago, where they had remained Prisoners till now; they complained of hard Usage, by the French, because they had served the English against the French, in the late War contrary to a League of Friendship, subsisting between the French, and the Six Nations.

I spent the Evening with them in a Publick House, and treated them with several Bottles of Wine.

The 27. Spent the forenoon with the said Indian, and conferred with them about my Journey to Onondago, they told me that the Cuentagers, were most ill in the French Interest, and had accepted of the French Religion, and that Colonel Johnson, had a Comission from the Governor of Carolina but named Agiaryquoaky to bring about a Peace, between the Six Nations and the Catabaws, and had actually made Proposition, to the Six Nations about the affair: Henry told me privately, that he did not believe Colonel Johnson could bring the thing about, but if the Governor of Carolina would make him Mr. Henery a handsome present, or pay him well for his Trouble, he could bring about a Peace between the Six Nations, and the Catabaws, he thought that it had that in Comission, and to invite

Miles.

the Six Nation Chiefs, to come to Virginia, to make a peace with the Catabaws;
In the afternoon I left Albany, and came to the Nordmans Creek: 10.

the 28. Came to Hunters field, otherwise called Shechary: — 26.

the 29. Tooke a ride to a small Indian Town, about 8. Miles southwards, and conferd with the Indians there, they being my old acquaintance, as I had lived them the year 1714. till the year 1729. within five miles of their Town; they were very glad to see me and acquainted me with every thing I desired to know of them, and told me of the bad Circumstances, with the Six Nations, and that the Oneentagers, Cayugers, & Sinickers, turned Frenchmen, and that some of the Onoiders inclined that way, and that they abused the Mohocks, and used them ill, for being true to the English, and that the Indian affairs lay neglected, and no body minded it, and that since the peace with the French, the Governor of New York, never spoke to the Indians, nor offered them any thing, and that the Mohocks themselves, who had fought against the French, with the Loss of much Blood, received no thanks for their good service;

the 30. Was Spent, with my old friends and acquaintance at the foresaid place.

the 31. I set out through the Woods, for the Mohocks Country

Miles.

It rained the most part of the Day, having but a very blind Indian path was lost, but meet accidently two Indians, who accompanied me to the Mohocks Country, where we arrived about an Houre after dark, came that Day about ——— 25.

Sept. the 1. Had a Conference with some of the Chiefs of the Mohocks, that lives near Fort Hunter, among whom was Brant and Sethes they wanted to know what the Governor of Virginia had to say, to the Six Nations of Indian, whether it was any thing about the Catabaws, I told them, that I was sure, that the Invitation, was in Consequence of the Treaty of Lancaster, held Six Years ago; that according to that Treaty the Goverment of Virginia, had recommended the Case of the 6 Nations to the King of Great Brittains, and that accordingly the King had sent a fine and large present to be given to the Six Nations, after several other Discourses I went to Colonel Johnsons, at Mount Johnsons, about three miles from Fort Hunter, where I arrived about Eleven of the Clock before noon and was kindly received and Hospitable entertained by the Colonel, he is the only and sole Comissioner of Indian affairs, in that Goverment; I staid 24 Hours with him, and I acquainted him with my Business at Onondago, we had a great Deal of Discourse about Indian affairs he shewed me among other Papers, relating to Indian affairs a

Copy of a Letter the Governer of South Carolina
wrote to the Governor of Newyork, wherein the
Governer of Newyork, was desired to bring about
a Peace, between the Six Nations and the Cata-
bars, which affair the Governer of Newyork
had left to Colonel Johnson, who told me that he
had allready begun his Negotiation, and was in hopes
to succeed, the Mohocks having promised him
their assistance, that he had undertaken, to bring
2. 6. or 8. of the Catabaws to the Mohocks Country
or Fort Hunter, to speake to the Mohocks first
and to obtain their safe Guard or protection, to tra-
vele through the united Nations to Onondage,
He both agreed that it was best for me not to say
any thing about the Catabaws, because he had made
as is to be hoped a good beginning;

Sept the 2. About ten of the Cloke, I left Colonel Johnsons
and came to Canajoharie to Barthol Pickert — 2b.
my Horse got lame that Day.

the 3. Came to Nichlas Pickerd about — 8.
my Horse very lame, was obliged have him anchor
an other, and a man, to guide us the Road to Onondage.

the 4. Came no further then Burnets field where we got our
Horses Shod, and bought some provision, to carry
through the Wilderness to Onondage — 16.

the 5. Came to Georg Croft, the last Settlement of white
people, on the Mohocks River, was obliged to
leave the other Horse I brought from Pensylvania
and hired another, thoe all night tide he not more but — 12.

Miles

The 6. I set out from George Cost by Sun rise came after
eleven hours ride to Oneido about 35.
it being but a very blind Indian path, and many Mod
holes to pass, we arrived a little before dark by rainy
Weather, the Oneider Indian being all home, they
called a Counsel;

The 7. The Counsel met and let me know, that if I had any
thing to say to them, they were ready to hear me, I went
to the House where they meet, with the Messenger
that came for me, and acquainted them with what
I had in Charge from the Governour of Virginia, and
desired them to send their Deputies with me to Onon
tage, to meet the Counsel of the six united Nations,
which they agreed to do, I desired them to send a
Messenger before me to Onontage, to inquaint the
Onontagers of my Coming, with a Message from
their Brother Sparyucah, and that I desired they
might kindle their Counsel fire; I gave a Streng of
Wampum to the Messenger, that went to Onontage,
to be sent to the Cayugers & Sinickers, the Messenger
set off immediatly, the Oneidors desired me to spend that
Day with them, and said, as the Message was gone
I had time enough, the Counsel could not meet in
less then 6. or 7. Days, I agreed to stay with them, the
whole Day was spent with some of the Chiefes, dis
coursing about State affairs, They told me they had
heard of my Coming some Days ago, and were glad that
I came to invite the Indian to Virginia, to treat with
the Catabaws, about a peace under the protection of

Ossaryquah, I told them that I had nothing to say
about the Catabaws, and that the Governor of Virginia
had other affairs to speake of with them, which he has
in Charge from the King of Great Britain, con-
cerning the Chain of Friendship, between the
English and the Six united Nations, that I was
well assured, they would not see a Catabaw there
at Friedrichsburg, perhaps some mention might
be made of them, and perhaps not. They told me
that their Brethren the English had been hitherto
deceived by the Catabaws by looking on them, as
a people that Sues for peace, with the Six united
Nations; but they knew better, they, the Catabaws
had declared, to the Tutulens & Cherakees they
would never Sue for a peace, with the Six united
Nations, that they would fight them, whilst there
was one of them alive, and that after their Death
their very Bones, shall fight the Six Nations and
that the Catabaws had murdered some of the Friends
of the 6. Nations: the Tutulens & Cherakees, for
offering their Mediation, to bring about a peace
with the Six Nations and that the Catabaws speake
with Contempt of the Six Nations, so that the Guides
wished, none of their Brethren the English Governors
would medle with the affair, if the Catabaws de actually
want a peace with the 6. united Nations, let them
follow the Example of the Cherakees, and come
to our Frontier Towns, and Sue for it, and they will ob-
tain it on the same Condition, as Cherakees do. I told
them, that I Supposed, the Catabaws that would com-

lure

to come one, but for fear would be killed, because for the reason they were been guilty of blood. That's aye, they answered that several of the Cherokees had been killed, by the Allies of the Six Nations in their way to the Southern Country, when they first came to sue for a peace notwithstanding they proceeded on their journey, and some arrived in the Southern Country, where they were safely arrived to their End, that perhaps such a thing might happen to the Catabaws by the way they could not escape better that, but after their arrival on some of the frontier towns they should be safed, they seemed to murder them after their arrival, and if they could not agree with them they could send them safe to their own Country and tell them that they will send after them to kill them in the Catabaw Country, they, the Six Nations were a great people, and had so much Interest in them to kill the Deputies of their Enemies in their Towns. Amongother discourse they told me, that they were sorry and repented very much of the great Insult the Cherokees had done once to the French, and accepted of the French Religion, and had suffered themselves to be misled by the French and the Cunning of their spirit, the peace it was by the Neglect of the English, and for ill Management that ever since the peace the Governor of New York never spoke to them

er gave them any thing, where the French gave large presents to the Sachagers and others, in order to bring them over to the French, the Indians that serve they English on the late Warr, were not well used by some. their Warriers hath the misfortune to be made prisoners were not redeemed by the English till about a Month ago, and were kept in Irons in Canada, all along, and hard usage: that since they came home some body minds them, but some had Wifes and Children, and no body took care of them, whilst the Husband or Father was in Prison in Canada. but the French had more Charity, for their Interest than the English had to theirs, they seemed to lament over the Division of the Indians as well as over the Division of the white people. The Name of the Onicen, Dysende by name, a man of about Seventy Years of age, but yet strong & nimble, asked me Several times, whether I knew the reason of the Governor of Newyork, and the Great Men of that province of the assembly's disagreeing, I told him, I did not, and Several other questions about publik affairs, that I could not answer, the Onicens fought under Col: Schyler, when their Schenectady was burnet, and were taken Captives by the French, in the former Warr, and is a man of exceeding great parts, I sat up with him in my Lodging till most midnight;

Sept:
the 8. I Set out for Canachseragy a Tuscarora Town about
30. Miles off, where I arrived, after Seven Hours ride,
meet a Messenger from the Onontagers by the way,
by which Messenger, the Onontagers did let me know,
that they were sorry to acquaint me, that Canasatego
their Chief died, the night before last, and that in
consequence thereof, there could be no Counsel Summoned
that they were sorry. I came so far, because for the pre-
sent melancholly time;
It is to be known, that the Six Nations don't meet in Counsel
when the are in Mourning, till some of their friends or neigh-
bours, whip off their Tears, and comfort their Heart, it is a
certain Ceremony, and if they appear in Counsel, without
that Ceremony being performed, the dead Person was of no Credit
or Esteeme, and it is a certain affront to the deceased friends
if he has any.
About an Hour after my Arrival, at Canaseragy, an
other Messenger came from Onontage, to let me
know, that notwithstanding the melancholly Event
that befell Onontage, the Counsel had upon a Second
thought resolved to hear me, because I came such
a great way, though contrary to their ancient Custom
they desired I would proceed on my Journey, and that
a Counsel of the Six Nations was accordingly Summo-
ned;
the 9th I Set out from Canaseragy, and arrived after 6 Hours ride
at Onontage, took up my Lodging as usual with

Johashwuchdioony, a House to Stand now by it self, the Rest of the Onontagers, had moved over the Creek some a mile, two miles, three Miles off, Saristaqueah came to see me, so did Hatachsoge, two Chiefes; an old man, and a member of the Counsel come with me from Canasorago, he begun to sing, a Lamentation Song, Just when we Set out, to Signifie to me, in an allegorically way, that the Town, where I was going to, was no more inhabited, by such good Friends as formerly, and that now more especialy, since the Ward died meaning Canasatego, the evil Spirits would reign, and bring forth Thorns and briars out of the Earth, his Name is Godeacherry a Brother of Soteowanaghty deceased, at the resting place I treald him with a Dram of good Rum, and told him that nothing was certain in the World, and that the great Being that hath created the World knew how to govern it, that I believ'd he would order every thing well, To which he said Amen in his Way;

The 11. Saristaqueah came again to see me the Rest of the Chiefs being in mourning did not appear; The Indians seemed to be much affected with the Death of Canasatego, and they having Lost several of their Headmen, in a short time three noted men died, in their Journey to and for Philadelphia, to with Secaniehaw, Caxhayion, and Soteowanaghty a Chief;

The 12. Nothing was done and no Deputies arrived.

The 13. None arrived.

The 13. The Deputies of the Oneiders and Tuscarora arrived making

in all five in number, the Cayunkers send Word, that they could not come, so did the Siniekers, the Cayugers having impowered the Onideers to act in their behalf; The said Deputies and I went out in the Bushes, and had a Council by our selves over the Death of Canassatego, we agreed to condole with the Onondagers, and to comfort them, and to wipe off their Tears in the usual way, I gave a large String of Wampum, towards the Expence, or for performing the Ceremony, the Onideers, & Tuscarora did the same, and we nominated Canachquayeson a Chief of the Onideers to be Speaker; About noon the Counsel of Onondage met the Chiefs of the Onondagers now present, were, Tohashuchdicony, Hatachsoge, Gechdachery, and Ganedutte with about 20 others, Canachquayeson Speaker of Counsel one desired to be heard as soon as the Counsel were met he was answered imediatly that they were ready to hear him, after a short pause, he began to speak and directed his Discourse to the Onondagers, and said:

Father, I the Onideers, Cayugers, and Tuscaroras, Tributaries adresse the Onondagers, Siniekers and Mohocks I are your Sons, the Onideers, Cayugers, and Tuscaroras, jointly with your Brother Shequeah cutted your Door in very melancholly time, when your Eyes is most blind, because for the Tears you shed and when your Heart is verry full to the highest Degree because for the Death of that great Man our Lord, that died but the other Day for a dead mans name must not be mentioned among that people I are your Sons, and your Brother

Belt

before name make it fit to come near you, in order to comfort you in your trouble, and to wipe off the tears from your eyes and to clean your throat, to enable you, to see about you and to speak out again, we also clean the place where you sit, from any deathly Distemper, that may remain on it, and might perhaps be the occasion of the great mans Death. here the Speaker gave a String of Wampum, of three rows in behalf of the United Sayigeeras and Iquaeeres I gave an other string of the same sort with a belt of Wampum, to cover the Grave of the deceased.

After a short pause I desired to be heard, to which they answered they were ready to hear me, then I said Brethren the united 6 Nations Twitte, Segarihegen, Sagesana, gehseent, Dyienenhegaren, Kharrenitequeeke, Saeeo, paetenana, & Tuscarore. I am sent to your Council fire, by your Brother Onaryquecale, and what I am going to say to you, is according to his request, I gave a String of Wampum and proceeded;

Brethren, the Governor of Virginia desires, that you will come to Fridericksburg, a town a little ways from Cahunangaroden, or Potomeck to a public Treaty, and to receive such present as the King of Great Britain your Father has ordered to be given to you by the Governor of Virginia, in consequence of the treaty of Lancaster held about 6 Year ago, gave a large String of Wampum and proceeded, Brethren, the Governor of Virginia will kindle a Council Fire, at Fridericksburg, in Virginia, where you may set in safety as under the

Shadow of a great Tree, and at your own fire at Onontago, to hear what your Brother the Governor of Virginia will say to you, by the Direction of the King of great Britain your Father the things that will be said to you will be of Importance, and altogether for the Good of the Public, especially to the Six united Nations tending entirely to their preservation, for the Confirmation of what I now said to you, your Brother Assaryguoah, the Governor of Virginia gives you this Belt of Wampum, here I give a large Belt of Wampum.

I concluded and desired to have their Answer that Night if possible, I was told that I should have their Answer by the Morrow.

By Sun Set the Onontagers returned thanks for the Condolement, and returned the Complement by a long Oration, made by Tahastowuchdicony, and gave a String of Wampum, of three Rows to the Oneiders, Cayugoes and Tuscarora, and one to me, and desired, that we may be comforted, over the Death of the Great man.

The 15th. The Indians being in Counsel all Day, in the Evening I was told by three of them that were sent to me, that I should have my Answer at the Oneider Town, on my Return, which they hoped would be Satisfactory.

The 16. According to Custom I put out the present Counsel fire, which was kindled by me and took my Leave of the Onontagers, and came with the Deputies of the Oneiders and Tuscaroras, to Canasoragy, before Night. I bought a quart of Rum here for me and my Companions to drink at Six Shillings, but the Company being to great, I was

obliged to pay two other quarts.

the 17. Arrived by rainy Weather at Oneido, about two of the Clock in the afternoon, the Oneiders meet imediatly in Counsel and after about two hours Consultation by themselves, they sent for me and told me, that they were ready to give me an Answer, and desired me to hear, I told them I was ready to hear, the Speaker directed his Discourse to the Governor of Virginia and said:

Brother Assaryquoaly, we take your Invitation very kindly, and return you our hearty thanks we would be very glad to see you, but every time that we have been down, with our Brother Onas in Philadelphia, we lost so many men, and last year, we lost twenty, among which number, were several of our Chiefs; The Evil Spirits that dwells among the white people, are against us and kills us, and we are now in a manner like Orphans, all our great and wise men are death, and as you have so much deeper within the Settlements of the white people, the evil Spirits must needs be more numerous, and of course will be more destructive to us, We therefore desire that you will move your Counsel fire to Albany, and kindle it there, which can be but very little or no Trouble to you, since you have Vessels to come by Water, and at Albany we will gladly hear you, and receive the Presents, sent by the Great King over the Water for the Lands, some of our former Deputies assigned to you, we desire that you will take our Answer in good part, and come Albany to meet us at our Counsel fire there burning; The Speaker gave me a large String of Wampum.

Brother Asaryquoah, the Belt of Wampume you gave us, concerning your Counsellors, we will answer and exchange, when we shall have the pleasure to see you in Albany, we will do all what is in our power to please you, pray consider well our Circumstances and you will then do the Just thing, the Speacker gave an other Smaler String of Wampum.

After some pause I told them, that I believ'd the Governor of Virginia could not come to Albany, and would perhaps give the presents to the Indians at Ohio, as the Ohio Indians being one & the same with the Six united Nations, and of their own Blood. They made Answer, that the Ohio Indians were but Hunters and no Counsellors or Chiefsmen, and they had no right to receive presents, that was due to the Six Nations although they might excepte to have Share, but that Share they must receive from the Six Nation Chiefs under them they belong.

I tooke my Leave, and told them what I had said last as my own Thought, and that I would let their Brother Asaryquoah knew, what had passed, as soon as I came home.

the 10. Set out from Oneida by Sun rise came to George East after Sun set.

the 19. Came to Burnets field by rainy Weather, and the

Sept.
Dec. To the upper Castel of the Mohecks called Canawaugy
the said Indian being from home, when I went up, they
new met and desired to know what passed at Onentage,
and what Succes I had, I informed them of every thing
and told them, that I found our Brethren the Six Nations
quite of an other Disposition then formerly, and that
I had the strongest reason to believe that their Heart
was turned from their Brethren the English.
They answered that it was true what I said, the French
had to great an Interest with the Onentages, Cayugers
and Sinickers, they complained of the Ill management
of the English in Indian affairs, and said that they were
afeared, to be cut off by aforesaid Nation, because they
charge them the Mohecks, to be Slaves of the English
Several other Complaints they had, but I could say nothing
to them;
I recomended John Pickert my Sisters Son to them for
to learn the Mohecks Tongue, perfect among them to
serve as an Interpreter for Pensylvania Ytw: after
I am grown old, and no more able to travle, they promised
to do what they could; The young Man speacks their
Language tolerable well now, and can writ & read
English, Dutch, & Indian, his Father lives but a mile
from Canawadagy and has the best opportunity to
learn the Indian Language perfectly.
Dec 21. Took my leave of them, and took my Route directly
towards Shechary, or Hunters field, by a blind Indian
Path, and from the last mentioned place to Katskill

also by a small Indian path, much a nearer Way then I went and arrived at my House on the first Day of October in perfect Health.

P. 65. In my going up, I was told by Mr. Livingston at his Manner, and Col. Johnson in the Mohocks County, that the French had erected a new Fort, on St. Laurence River, at a place called Swegatsy, not far from the Lake Frontinac, for the Indians, and that a certain French Priest, was there to instruct the Indians in the French Religion, and that he cloathed all the Ind. that came to live there, and build Houses, and cleared Land for them, at his own, or at the french Kings Cost, and that one Nojoty of the Onontagers, had actually begun to live there; Of all this was confirmed, when I came to Onontago by several all creditable persons, and by the Counsel of Onontago itself, with this addition, that the french Priests at Swegatsy had made about a Hundred Converts among the Onontagers, Men, Women, & Children, that came to live at Swegatsy last Spring, and that the aforesaid french Priest had cloathed them all in very fine Cloaths, laced with Silver & Gold, and took them down and presented them to the french Governor at Montreal, who had received them very Kindly, and made them large presents. Several of the said Converts, came back to Onontago, and drunk away their fine Cloaths, and reported, that the french Priest at Swegatsy was not good, and encouraged to make Slaves of the Indians, notwithstanding his fine Speeches he makes to the Indians, that in one of them

he had told them, that Onontioqueah / the french King did looke upon the Indians as his own Children, and would take care, that they should not want, nor no Body should hurt them, that he would apoint a great man, as a Gardian over them, whom he hoped his Children the Indians would obey as their Father Onontioqueah himself in every Respect, and that the new Converts, should not mind, what the unconverted Indians says, in their foolish Counsel, nor should they meet in such Counsel, & that their Father Onontioqueah, would find every thing for them, and secure them against all Nation, so that they had no need of Indian Government; All this the said Indians interpret that the French wants to make Slaves of them, and in a making pay they tell one another, go and get baptised again by your Father, and bring some fine Cloaths, that we may drink again; ho said the other, he will be hanged now, if he comes again for fine Cloaths, his Father is angry, because his holy Water is of no Force with the Indians;
In many such Discourses I have heard, by which I saw plain, that they dont pay any Respect to any Religion, let it come from where it will, if they dont get by it;
One Evening whilst I was Onontago, I heard a friendly Dispute between Ganachquaieson, a Protestant Convert and one of the Deputies of Oneide. And the good man of the House where we lodged. Tahashuchdiony by Name, a professed Romain, he is at the Head of Affairs in Onontago Since the Death of Canasatego.
Tahashuchdiony asked Canachquaieson, whether

it was true, that such a one, naming an Onida Indian, said in a desperate way that he must go to Hell after he dies, and live with the Devils?

Ganachquaieson answered! yes the man said so, but he was very Sik when he said so, and was in great Trouble because he had been true, according to the pact of his Baptism;

Sahashwuchdieeny said, if you must go to Hell, after you are baptised, what signifies your Baptism? then we that are baptised by the French Priests, can never be damned, we very seldom or never are true to our Baptism — pact, but the Fathers tells us they pray for us, and after we are death, they can take us from Hell by their prayers, and we have in our Choice to go to the place where the French Fathers goe, with the rest of good people, or whether we will go to the place where the fore Fathers of the Indians go to, the French Priests can obtain either for us.

Ganachquaieson! what you say of the Power and Strenght of your Fathers prayers, and the Choice you have, to go to where you will, is a Mistake of yours, your Fathers deceive you, it is made manifest by the Creator of Heaven & Earth, that the good People only shall dwell with him after their Live, and the evil Doers shall dwell with the Devils, and without Repentance and Faith in Jesus Christ, there no Salvation for an evil Doer, let your French Fathers say what they will;

Sahashwuchdieeny! perhaps both, your and our Fathers

are in the Light, as they are of different Nations, and Languages, they understood the Creator in a different Way; Our french Fathers tells us, that they can Speack with these happy Souls, that dwells in Heaven now, and have any thing from them, and your Fathers say, they have a Booke wrote by the Creator himself, but our Fathers denies that and say, that they get the Original of that Book, and yours have a only Copy of it, made by one that dis not understand it.

Ganachquajeson! The Book we Speak of, is the same among all Nations, and our Fathers have the same, what your Fathers have, that is what they all allow, that the Book is the same; But your Fathers tells you, that they can speak, with the happy Souls that dwells in Heaven, it is they, that makes the Mischief, for they tell us Stories contrary to the things wrote in that Book by the Hand of the Creator, and this is the Reason, that your french Fathers will not allow comon people, to have such Books, for fear their Deceit will be found out.

Tahasnuchdioony! I'm Satisfied, that the french Fathers tells us Lies sometimes, I asked once a french Father whether or no we could be forced to go to Heaven, where the french Fathers and all good People went: he told me no, I desires an other, to make Inquiry in Heaven, whether or no my Grandfather, I named him, was there, he promised he would, next Day he told me that he saw him there, I asked her he came there, because he mortally hated the Fathers & their Religion and he took one a Father prisoner, and brought him

to Onontago, and had burned him there to ashes, & he charged his Children, and grand Children, to hate and kill the French Fathers, whenever they had them in their Power. The French Father made answer, that perhaps he mistook the person, and said he would look again, and told me some Days after, when I went to see him, that he certainly made a mistake, that the person he saw in Heaven, and mistook for my grand father, was my Fathers Grandfather, and that my Grandfather was in Hell, I told him that he was a Liar, and that I was sure, my Grandfather was gone to the plentifull Country, where the forefathers of the Indians goes; And it is to that place, that I will go, and no other we are cheated by the white people in this World, and if we don't stand clear of them, the will cheat us in the other and make Slaves of us.

Ganachguajeson; since I can not well inform you of the Truth of Things according to the Doctrine of our Fathers, I'm well pleased, that I choose to go to our Indian Forefathers rather, then to the place where the French Fathers go.

Mr Weiser despairs of making any Purchases of Lands from the Six Nations — And I hear that his Son Sam is not left in the Indian Country, but when he comes to Town he will I hope clear up all Matters, tho the Account given of his Journey be but so so. It may perhaps be needful what he intends to give to the Govr of Pennsylv^a — or by private memoirs.

Conrad Weisers Journal
of his Journey to
Onondago intended
for the Lieu^t Governor
of Virginia

He makes a separate
one for this Province
wch shall be copied
soon in Quarto

This is only to let the
Governor see what a Stile
& Method Conrad is
in

R Peters
13th Octr 1750

A Journal of the Proceedings of Conrad Weiser in his Journey to Onontago, with a Message from the Honourable Thomas Lee Esquire President of Virginia, to the Indians there ./.

750 Miles

Aug.t 15.th Set out in the Afternoon from my House in Heidelberg, and came to Reading on Schuylkill that Day . . . 14

16.th Came to Henry Sayeman in Maxidawny 20

17.th Came to Nazareth 27

18.th To Nicholas Depuy in Smithfield on Delaware 30

19.th To Henry Gottrecht at Minesink 25

20.th To Emanuel Paskal 35

21.st To Kingstown 44

22.d Rained all Day, lay by . . . . . .

23.d Crossed Hudson's River, for the sake of a better Road); Rain continued, came to Reinbeck 10

24.th Came to the Mannor of Levingston 18

25.th Came to Albany 44

26.th Lay still being Sunday; met Henry Peters and Nicholas Two Chiefs of the Mohocks, with Eight more of that Nation; The said Nicholas and two more of that Company, that came from Canada but

Miles

but a few Days agoe (where they had remained Prisoners 'till now) complained of hard Usage from the French, because they had served the English against the French in the last War, contrary to a League of Friendship, subsisting between the French and the Six Nations; I spent the Evening with them in a Publick House, and treated them with several Bottles of Wine . /.

Aug.t 27. Spent the Forenoon with the said Indians, and conferred with them about my Journey to Onontago; they told me that the Onontagers were most all in the French interest, and had accepted of the French Religion, and that Coll.o William Johnson had a Commission from the Governor of Carolina; (but named Asseriquoah) to bring about a Peace between the Six Nations and the Catabaws, and had actually made Propositions to the Six Nations about the Affair; Henry told me privately, that he did not believe Coll.o Johnson could bring the thing about; But if the Governor of Carolina, would make him (Henry) a handsome Present, or pay him well for his trouble, he could bring about a Peace between the Catabaws and the Six Nations: He thought that I had that in Commission, and to invite the Six Nation Chiefs to come to Virginia, to make a Peace with the Catabaws . /.

In the Afternoon I left Albany and came to Hordman's Creek 10

Miles

28th. Came to Hunterfield, otherwise called Schochary — 26

29th. Took a Ride to a small Indian Mohocks Town, about eight Miles Southwards, and conferred with the Indians there, they being my old Acquaintance, as I had lived from the Year 1714, till the Year 1729, within Two Miles of their Town; they were very glad to see me, and acquainted me with every thing I desired to know of them, and told me of the bad Circumstances with the Six Nations, and that the Onondagers, Cayugers, and Sinickers, were turned Frenchmen, and that some of the Oneiders inclined that way, and that they abused the Mohocks, and used them ill, for being true to the English, and that the Indian Affairs lay neglected, and nobody minded them, and that since the Peace with the French the Governor of New York never spoke to the Indians, nor offered them any thing; and that the Mohocks themselves, who had fought against the French with the loss of much Blood, received no thanks for their good Service.

30th. Was spent with my old Friends and Acquaintance at the aforesaid Place.

31st. Just out through the Woods for the Mohocks Countrey; it rained the most part of the Day; having but a very blind Indian Path was lost, but not accidentally —

Two

miles

Two Indians who accompanied me to the Mohocks Countrey; where we arrived about an Hour after Dark; Came that Day about 25

Sep.r 1.st Had a Conference with some of the Chiefs of the Mohocks that lives near Fort Hunter; among whom was — Brand and Seth; they wanted to know what the Governor of Virginia had to say to the Six Nations of Indians., & whether it was any thing about the Catabaws.; I told them I was sure that the Invitation was in consequence of the Treaty of Lancaster, held Six Years agoe, that according to that Treaty, the Government of Virginia, had recommended the Case of the Six Nations, to the King of Great Britain, and that accordingly the King had sent a fine and large Present to be given to the Six Nations.

After several other Discourses, I went to Colonel Wm. Johnson's, about three Miles from Fort Hunter, where I arrived about Eleven o'Clock before Noon, and was kindly received, and hospitably entertained by the Coll.; He is the only and sole Commissioner of Indian affairs in that Government; I staied Twenty four hours with him, and acquainted him with my Business to Onontago;. We had a great deal of Discourse about Indian affairs, & He shewed me (among other Papers relating to Indian

affairs

Affairs / a Copy of ye Letter the Governor of South Carolina wrote to the Governor of New York, wherein the Governor of New York was desired to bring about a Peace between the six Nations and the Catabaws; which Affair the Governor of New York had left to Coll: Johnson, who told me that he had already begun his Negotiation, and was in hopes to succeed, the Mohocks having promised him their Assistance, that he had undertaken to bring five, six, or ten of the Catabaws to the Mohocks Countrey, or Fort Hunter to speak to the Mohocks first, and to obtain their safe guard or Protection to travel through the United Nations to Onontago. We both agreed that it was best for me not to say any thing about the Catabaws, because he had made (as is to be hoped) a good beginning. miles.

Sept. 2. About ten o' Clock I left Coll: Johnson's & came to Cana-Johary to Barthol. Picketts 25

My Horse got lame this Day.

the 3d. Came to Nicholas Picketts, about .... — 8

My Horse very lame, was obliged to leave him and hire another, and a Man to guide us the Road to Onontago.

the 4th. Came no further than Burnetsfield, where we got our Horses Shoed, and bought some Provisions to carry through

miles

through the Wilderness to Onontago 18

the 5th. Came to George Coats, the last Settlement of White People on the Mohocks River; was obliged to leave the other Horse I brought from Pennsylvania, and hired another, stayed all Night, travelled but 12

the 6th. Set out from George Coats by Sun rise, came after eleven hours ride to Oneido about 35

It being but a very blind Indian Path, and many mud holes to pass, we arrived a little before Dark in rainy weather: The Oneider Indians being all at Home, they called a Council.

the 7th. The Council met, and let me know, that if I had any thing to say to them, they were ready to hear me; I went to the House where they met, with the Messenger that came for me, and acquainted them with what I had in charge from the Governor of Virginia, and desired them to send their Deputies with me to Onontago, to meet the Council of the Six united Nations, which they agreed to do.

I desired them to send a Messenger before me to Onontago, to acquaint the Onontagers with my coming fro a Message from their Brother Assariquoah, and that I desired they might kindle their Council fire. I gave a String of Wampum to the Messenger that went to Onontago, to be sent

to

to the Cayugers and Sinickers; the Messenger set off immediately.

The Oneiders desired me to spend that Day with them, and said, as the Message was gone, I had time enough, the Council could not meet in less than Six or Seven Days; I agreed to stay with them; the whole Day was spent with some of their Chiefs, discoursing about State Affairs; they told me they had heard of my coming some Days ago, and were told that I came to invite the Indians to Virginia, to treat with the Catabaws about a Peace, under the Protection of Assariquoah; I told them that I had nothing to say about the Catabaws, and that the Governor of Virginia had other Affairs to speak with them, given him in Charge by the King of Great Britain, concerning the Chain of Friendship between the English, and the Six united Nations; that I was well assured they would not see a Catabaw there at Fredericksburg; perhaps some mention might be made of them, and perhaps not; they told me that their Brethren the English had been hitherto deceiv'd by the Catabaws, by looking on them as a People that sue for Peace with the Six united Nations, but they know better, they the Catabaws had declared to the Tutulons and Cherakees, they would never Sue for a Peace with the six united Nations, that they would fight them whilst there was One of them alive, and that after their Death their very Bones shall fight the

(

Six

Six Nations; and that the Catabaws had murder'd some of the Friends of the Six Nations (the Tutulons and Cherakees) for offering their Medeation to bring about a Peace with the Six Nations; and that the Catabaws spoke with Contempt of the Six Nations; so that they the Oneiders, wished none of their Brethren the English Governors would meddle with the Affair; If the Catabaws do actually want a Peace with the Six united Nations, let them follow the example of the Cherakees, and come to our Frontier towns, and sue for it, and they will obtain it on the same Conditions as the Cherakees did; I told them, that I supposed the Catabaws who would venture to come and Sue for a Peace, would be killed, because of the treachery they had been guilty of some Years agoe; they answered that several of the Cherakees had been killed by the Allies of the Six Nations, in their way to the Sinicker Countrey, when they first came to sue for a Peace, notwithstanding they proceeded on their Journey, & some of them arrived in the Sinicker Countrey, where they were safe, and obtained their Ends; that perhaps such a thing might happen to the Catabaws by the way, they could not help that, but after their arrival at some of the Frontier Towns, they should be saved; they scorned to murther them after their arrival, and if they could not agree with them, they would send them safe to their own Countrey, and tell them that they will

send

send after them to kill them in the Catabaw Country; they the Six Nations were too great a People, and had too much Honour to kill the Deputies of their Enemies in their Towns.

Among other Discourses, they told me they were sorry to acquaint me that a great part of the Onontagers had gone over to the French and accepted of the French Religion, and had suffered themselves to be misled by the French, and the cunning of their Priests; they said it was by the neglect of the English, and their ill management; that ever since the Peace, the Governor of New York never spoke to them, or gave them any thing, while the French gave large Presents to the Onontagers, and others, in order to bring them over to the French; the Indians that served the English in the late War, were not well used; some stout Warriors who had the misfortune to be made Prisoners, were not redeemed by the English till about a Month agoe, and were kept in Irons in Canada all along, and had hard usage; that since they came home nobody minded them, that some had Wives and Children, and nobody took care of them; whilst the Husband or Father was in Prison in Canada; that the French had more charity for their Indians, than the English had to theirs: They seemed to lament over the division of the English, as well as over the division of white People; the Head of the Oneiders (Dissononto by name) a Man of above

Seventy

Seventy Years of Age, but yet strong and nimble, asked me several times whether I knew the reason of the Governor of New York, & the great Men of that Province (the Assembly) disagreeing, I told him I did not, and asked several other Questions about publick Affairs, that I could not answer. This Disponto fought under Coll.o Schyler when the Mohocks Towns were burnt, and were taken Captives by the French in the former Century, and is a Man of exceeding great Parts; I sat up with him in my Lodgings till almost Midnight.

Sep.r 6.th I set out for Canachsoragy (a Tuscororo town) about Eighteen Miles off, where I arrived after Seven hours ride; met a Messenger from Onontago by the way, by which Messenger, the Onontagers did let me know that they were sorry to acquaint me that Canasatego their Chief, died the Night before last, and that in consequence thereof there could be no Council summoned, and they were sorry I came so far, because of the present melancholy time.

NB. It is to be known that the Six Nations don't meet in Council when they are in Mourning, like some of their Friends or Neighbours wipe off their Tears, and comfort their Heart; it is a certain Ceremony, and if they appear in Council without that Ceremony being performed, the dead Person was of no Credit or Esteem, & it is a certain Affront to the deceased's Friends, if he has any.

About an hour after my arrival at Canachsoragy, another Messenger arrived at Onontago, to let me know that

notwithstanding

notwithstanding the melancholy event that befell Onontago, the Councill had upon a second thought resolved to hear me, because I came such a great way, though contrary to their antient Custom; they desired that I would proceed on my Journey, and that a Councel of the Six Nations, was accordingly summoned.

the 9th. I set out from Canachsoragy, and arrived after Eight hours ride at Onontago, took up my Lodgings as usual with Tohashuwchdoony, a House which now stands by itself, the rest of the Onontagers having moved over the Creek, some a Mile, two miles, three miles off; Sariataquoah came to see me, so did Hatachsogo, two Chiefs.

An old Man and a Member of the Councel came with me from Canasoragy, he begun to sing a Lamentation Song just when we set out, to signify to me in an allegorical way, that the Town where I was going to, was no more inhabited by such good Friends as formerly, and now more especially, since the Word dyed (meaning Canasatego) the evil Spirits would reign, and bring forth Thorns and Brians out of the Earth; his Name is Gechdachery, a Brother of Soterwanachty deced; At the resting place I treated him with a Dram of good Rum, and told him that nothing was certain in the World, & that the Great Being that had created the World, knew how to Govern it, that I believed he would order every

thing

thing well, to which he said Amen, in his way.

the 10th. Saristaguoah came again to see me, the rest of the Chiefs being in Mourning did not appear:

The Indians seemed to be much affected with the death of Canasatego, as they have lost several of their Men in a short time; three noted Men died in their Journey to and from Philadelphia, to wit, Tocanihan, Caxhayon and Soterwanachty a Chief.

the 11th. Nothing was done, and no Deputies arrived.

In my going up I was told by Mr. Levingston at his Mannor, and Coll: Johnson in the Mohocks Countrey, that the French had erected a new Fort at S.t Lawrence's River, at a place called Swegatsy, not far from the Lake Frontinac, for the Indians, and that a certain French Priest was there, to instruct the Indians in the French Religion, and that he cloathed all the Indians that came to live there, and built Houses and cleared Land for them, at his own, or at the French King's Costs, and that one half of the Onontagers had actually begun to live there; Of all this I was confirmed when I came to Onontago by several credable Persons, and by the Council of Onontago itself, with this addition, that the French Priest at Swegatsy had made about a hundred Converts among the Onontagers, Men, Women and Children,

that

that came to live at Swegatsy last Spring, and that the aforesaid French Priest had cloathed them all in very fine Cloaths laced with Silver and Gold, and took them down and presented them to the French Governor at Montreal, who had received them very kindly, and made them large Presents; several of the said Converts came back to Onontago, and drunk away their fine Cloaths, & reported that the French Priest at Swegatsy was not good, and endeavoured to make Slaves of the Indians, notwithstanding his fine Speeches he makes to the Indians; that in One of them, he had told them, Onontiquoah the French King did look upon the Indians as his own Children, and would take care that they should not want, nor nobody should hurt them, that he would appoint a great Man as a Guardian over them, whom he hoped his Children the Indians would obey as their Father Onontiquoah himself in every respect, and that the new Converts should not mind what the unconverted Indians said in their foolish Council; that their Father Onontiquoah would find every thing for them, and protect them against all Nations, so that they had no need of Indian Government; this they interpret, that the French want to make Slaves of them, & in a mocking way tell one another, go and get Baptised again by your Father, and bring home fine Cloaths that we may get some Drink, no, said another still joking, he will be hang'd

now

now if he goes again for five Coaths; his Father is angry because his holy Water is of no force with the Indians; Many such Discourses I have heard, by which I saw plain, that they do not pay any respect to any Religion, let it come from where it will if they do not get by it.

the 12th. No Deputies arrived.

I heard that Ontachsina (John Cuir or some such Name) the French Interpreter, who resided in the Sinicker Countrey during the late War, was gone thro' the Sinicker Countrey, in his way to Ohio with Merchant Goods, and five or six Frenchmen with him, and told the Sinickers that he had Orders from the Governor of Canada, to drive away the English Traders from Ohio, with the assistance of the Indians

the 13th. The Deputies of the Oneidoes and Tuscororo's arrived, making in all five in number; the Cayugers sent word that they could not come, so did the Sinickers; the Cayugers having impowered the Oneidoes to act in their behalf; the said Deputies and I went out in the Bushes, and had a Council by ourselves over the death of Canasatego, We agreed To condole with the Onontagers, and to comfort them and wipe off their Tears, in the usual way; I gave a large String of Wampum towards the Expence, for performing the Ceremony; the Oneidoes and Tuscororows did the same

and

and We nominated Ganachquayieson a Chief of the Oneides to be Speaker.

About Noon the Council of Onontago met; the Chiefs of the Onontagers now present were Tahashwuch=dioony, Hatachsogo, Geckdachery and Ganodu, with about Twenty others.

Ganachquayieson open'd the Council and desired to be heard, as soon as the Council pleased, he was answered that they were ready to hear him immediately; After a short pause he begun to speak, and directed his Discourse to the Onontagers and said

Father / So the Oneiders, Cayugers and Susquehannas stile or address the Onontagers, Mohocks & Sinickers.

" We your Sons the Oneiders, Cayugers
" and Sinickers jointly with your Brother Assariquoah
" entred your Doors in a very melancholy time, when your Eyes
" are almost blind for the Tears you shed, and when your Hearts
" is sorrowfule to the highest Degree, for the death of that
" great Man Our Word, who dyed but the other Day;"
[A dead Mans Name must not be mentioned among those People]. ." We your Sons, and your Brother before named, make bold to come near you, in order to comfort you in your

trouble

trouble, and to wipe of the Tears from your Eyes, and to clean your Throats, to enable you to see about you, and to speak out again; We also clean the Place where you sit, from any deadly Distemper that may remain on it, and might perhaps, have been the Occasion of the Great Man's death; . . [Here the Speaker gave a String of Wampum in behalf of the Oneiders Cayugers and Tuscororows; I gave another of the same size, with a Belt of Wampum, to cover the Grave of the deceased.]

After a short pause, I desired to be heard, to which they answered they were ready to hear me, then I said)

Brethren the Six united Nations, to wit Togarichoan, Sagosanagechteront, Dyonenhogarow; Neharontoquoah, Sanonowantowano, and Tuscaroro.

I am sent to your Council fire by your Brother Assariquoah, and what I am going to say to you is according to his request.

I gave a String of Wampum and proceeded.)

Brethren.

The Governor of Virginia desires that you will come to Fredericksburg, a Town a little way from Cachwangorodon (Potomack) to a publick Treaty, and to

receive

receive such Presents, as the King of Great Britain your Father had ordered to be given to you by the Governor of Virginia in consequence of the Treaty of Lancaster, held about Six Years ago.

I gave a large String of Wampum, and proceeded,

Brethren.

The Governor of Virginia will kindle a Council Fire at Fredericksburg in Virginia, where you may sit in safety, as under the Shadow of a great Tree, as at your own Fire at Onontago, to hear what your Brother the Governor of Virginia will say to you, by the direction of the King of Great Britain your Father; the things that will be said to you will be of Importance, and altogether for the good of the Publick, especially of the Six united Nations, tending intirely to their Preservation. For the Confirmation of what I have now said to you; Your Brother Assariquoah, the Governor of Virginia gives you this Belt of Wampum.

Here I gave a large Belt of Wampum.

I concluded and desired to have their Answer that Night if possible, I was told that I should have their Answer on the Morrow.

By Sunset the Onontagers gave Thanks for the condolement, and returned the Compliment by a long Oration, made by Tahashwuchdioony, and gave a String of

Wampum

Wampum of three Rows to the Oneiders, Cayugers and Tuscororo's, and One to me, and desired that we might be comforted over the death of the Great Man.

the 15th. The Indians being in Council all Day, in the Evening I was told by three of them, that were sent to me, that I should have my Answer at the Oneider Town, on my return, which they hoped would be satisfactory.

the 16th. According to Custom, I put out the present Council fire which was kindled by me, and took my leave of the Onontagers; and came with the Deputies of the Oneiders and Tuscororows to Canasoragy before Night.

I bought a quart of Rum here for me and my companions to drink, at Six Shillings, but the Company being too great, I was obliged to buy two other Quarts.

the 17th. Arrived in rainy Weather at Oneido, about Two o'Clock in the Afternoon; the Oneiders met immediately in Council, and after about Two hours Consultation by themselves, they sent for me, and told me that they were ready to give me an Answer, and desired me to hear; I told them I was ready to hear.

The Speaker directed his Discourse to the Governor of Virginia, and said,

Brother

Brother Asariquoah.

We take your Invitation very kindly, and return you our hearty thanks; We would be very glad to see you, but every time that we have been down with our Brother Onas in Philadelphia, we lost so many Men, and last Year we lost Twenty, among which number were several of our Chiefs; the Evil Spirits that dwell among the white People are against us and kill us, and we are now in a manner like Orphans, all our great and wise Men are dead, and as you live so much deeper within the Settlements of the white People, the evil Spirits must needs be more numerous, and of course will be more destructive to us; We therefore desire that you will move your Council fire to Albany, and kindle it there, which can be but very little or no trouble to you, since you have Vessells to come by Water, and at Albany we will gladly hear you, and receive the Presents sent by the Great King over the Waters, for the Land some of our former Deputies Assigned to you; We desire that you will take our Answer in good part, and come to Albany to meet us at our Council fire there burning.

The Speaker gave me a large Belt of Wampum.

Brother

Brother Asseriquoah;

The Belt of Wampum you gave us concerning your Council fire, we will answer and exchange, when we shall have the pleasure to see you in Albany; we will do all that is in our power to please you; pray consider well our Circumstances, and you will then do the just thing.

[The Speaker gave another String of Wampum].

After some pause, I told them that I believ'd the Governor of Virginia could not come to Albany, and would perhaps give the Presents to the Indians at Ohio, as the Ohio Indians were one and the same with the Six united Nations, and of their own Blood; they made Answer that the Ohio Indians were but Hunters, and no Councellors or Chief Men, and they had no right to receive Presents that was due to the six Nations, altho' they might expect to have a share, but that share they must receive from the Six Nation Chiefs, under whom they belong.

I took my leave, and told them, what I had said last, was my own thought, and I would let their Brother Asseriquoah know what had passed, as soon as I came home.

the 18th. Set out from Oneido, came to George Croft's after Sun set.

the 19th. Came to Burnetsfield in rainy Weather; &
the 20th. To the upper castle of the Mohocks called Canawadagy, the Indians being from home when I went up, they now met, and desired to know what passed at Onontago, and what success I had; I informed them of every thing, and told them that I found our Brethren the six Nations quite of another Disposition than formerly, and that I had the strongest reason to believe that their Hearts were turned from their Brethren the English; they answered that it was true what I said, the French had too great an interest with the Onontagers, Cayugers, and Sinickers; they complained of the ill management of the English in Indian Affairs, and said they were afraid to be cut off by the aforesaid Nations, because they charge them the Mohocks, to be Slaves of the English: Several other Complaints they had, but I could say nothing to them.

I recommended John Pickert, my Sister's Son to them, for to learn the Mohocks tongue perfect among them, to serve as Interpreter for Pennsylvania &c. after I am grown old, and no more able to travele; they promised to do what they could; the young Man speaks their language tollerably well now, and can write and read English, Dutch, and Indian; his Father lives but a Mile from Canawadagy and has the best opportunity to learn the Indian language perfect.

Took

the 21st. Took my leave of them, and took my rout directly towards Shockary or Hunters field, by a blind Indian Path, and from the late mentioned place to Katskill also by a small Indian Path, much a nearer way than I went and arrived at my House on the first day of October in perfect health . / .

P.S.

The Chiefs of Onontago inquired what was done to the Settlers on their Land, near Juniady Creek and thereabouts; I told them that the Governor of Pennsylvania had sent his Secretary to the spot with some Magistrates and Sherriffs to remove the Settlers, that accordingly the People were ordered to come away instantly; some that resisted and had taken up Arms, had their Cabbins burned, after the Goods were taken out by the People that came with the Secretary; that some of the People were imprisoned; that to all this I had been an Eye witness; that some People, that seemed to be good natured upon their submission and supplication I had obtained

liberty

liberty to gather in their small Crops, but had promised to come away in the Fall; that some of the Shomockin Indians had been present all along, and saw what was done; they signifyed their Satisfaction to me, and told me that they were very glad that their Brother the Governor of Pennsylv? had taken Notice of their Complaint.

They repeated over and over that the Indians on Ohio had no right to sell any Land about Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, or Ohio, and that what share they might have a Right to demand of the Presents the six united Nations received for the Land, must be adjusted by the Chiefs of the said Nations; that the Ohio Indians lived on a good hunting place, and were in a manner only gone to hunt there, and their Relations at home, received hitherto their share of the Consideration or Presents for the Lands.

Onontago was thick with French praying Indians when I was there; Eight or Nine of them came to see me, and owned they came from Canada to see their Friends at Onontago, and behaved very civil to me.

I

I was told by Tahashwuchdioony the Chief that all the Belts of Wampum belonging to the Publick from the several English Governors, that remained unanswered at the death of Canasatego, and found in his possession, were by his Orders burnt with him; this the said Chief said to make Canasatego a Thief; after his Death some imagine that his Widow and family stole them ℔ . / .

the 13th. of October 1750. } Conrad Weiser.

Copy

Governor Hamilton's
Message to his Assembly
16th October 1750

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

Gentlemen

In my Message of the Eighth of August to the late Assembly, I mentiond the Apprehensions, the Indians at Ohio were under, from the Menaces of the French, who frequently threatned to attack them for adhereing to their Friendship with Us; yet as no Hostilities had then been attempted, I was in hopes from the Caution and Unanimity of the Indians in Our Alliance, they might be discouraged from any Undertakeing of that Kind: but I am now sorry to acquaint You that from the Information I have since received, it appears, the French are determind at all Events, to bring off the Indians from Our Alliance. That in Consequence of this Resolution, they have been using all possible Artifices to corrupt the Six Nations at Onondago, and have also very lately sent a large and valuable Present to be distributed among the Indians at Ohio, and least these Measures should fail, have actually provided at Fort De Troit, Magazines of Provisions and Warlike Stores, to be in readiness against the Spring, in order to reduce them by a Body of Forces from Canada: on which Design should they succeed, it cannot be surpassed they will long suffer these Indians to continue in Peace with Us; the fatal Consequences whereof, not only to our Trade, but even to the Lives and Properties of our remote Inhabitants, must be obvious to every considerate Person.

That the French are resolved at any Rate to embroil Us with the Indians at Ohio, is further confirmd by Two Persons Inhabitants of this Province, who were taken Prisoners in May last, by Seven French Indians, within a few miles of one of the Neighbouring Towns, at the Instigation of the French Officer at Fort De Troit, to whom they were delivered, and from whom as he was conveying them to Canada, they made their Escape.

Mr. Weiser our Province Interpreter is now in Town, being just returned from Onondago, and brings from thence likewise very disagreeable News, to wit, that upon the Death of Canassatego, and some other of the Principal Sachems of the Six Nations, who were heartily attached to the English, the Person now at the Head of their Councils is wholly in the French Interest.

Thus thro' the indefatigable Industry of the French, not only the Six Nations at Onondago are much shaken in their Affections to Us, and inclining to go over to our Rivals; but the Indians at Ohio are in great

Danger

Danger of being corrupted by their Presents, or subdued by their Arms; unless some proper and speedy Measures are taken to prevent it.

This Gentlemen is the present unhappy Situation of our Indian Affairs according to the best Information I can procure, and tho' it is not usual for You to enter on Business of Importance at your first meeting, yet I am perswaded that on Perusal of the Papers I herewith send You, You will think it incumbent on You, to take the whole Matter into your immediate Consideration, since any Delay, as Things are now circumstanced, may prove of the most dangerous consequence.

Upon what His Excellency Governor Clinton was pleased to write to me, on Indian Affairs, I immediately ordered Mr. Croghan and Mr. Montour to haste to Ohio, with the small present provided by the late Assembly for the Six nations, and was in hopes they would arrive time enough to have dissipated the Schemes of the French, and by shewing these Indians their true Interest, have fixed them stedfastly in our Friendship, but unfortunately they were both prevented by Sickness from proceeding on their Journey, so that as they are not yet gone, I have given Orders to stay them, till I shall be acquainted with the Resolutions of your House on this Subject.

I must therefore earnestly entreat You, to give these Affairs all the Attention their Importance requires, and that together with your Advice, you will likewise furnish the necessary Means of frustrating the mischievous Designs of our Rivals the French, and enable me effectually to preserve the Fidelity and Friendship of our Indians and their Allies.

Philadelphia
2h
16 October 1750.

James Hamilton

A true Copy

Richard Peters Secry

mon Safety, and to keep up that good Correspondence with the Indians which is so necessary to Us all.

I am, Sr,

Your most Obedient

and most humble Servant,

SAM: OGLE.*

Indorsed—"Governor Ogle's Letter, 16th 8ber, 1750."

Pres. Lee to Gov'r Hamilton, 1750.

Williamsburg, Oct. 22, 1750.

Sir:

I this moment rec'd the favour of your letter of the 20th of last month, with the inclosed papers. I am very much of your opinion, and I will loose no occasion yt offers to effect what you so justly think reasonable. I have the same advice from Govert Glen of South Carolina, with respect to the Southern Indns: he complains of the Northern Indians Setting their Indians to war with one another, and proposes to have a General Peace with all the Indians, North & South, the next Summer, at Fredericksburg. I had this in my tho'ts when I moved for the Kings present, to the Six Nations, and the Indians on the Ohio, and wn I have an answer from the Council at Onontagoe, by Mr. Weiser, and the time the Indians set' for the meeting at Fredericksburg, I will desire your assistance at that meeting, in order to effect that good purpose. It will be my desire to make that present avail for the benefit of all the Colonys. Mr. Glen Justly Observes, yt the French are united in their Councils, which gives them advantages, that they cou'd not have if the Kings Governors on the Contint were to act on the Same principle, which I hope will be the case, from the good dispositions I Observe on the present Occasion. I was unwilling to miss this first opportunity to assure you of my zeal in this business, which I think is so much for His Majesty's Service, and to assure you that I am,

Sir,

Your most Obedient

humble Servant,

THOMAS LEE.†

Indorsed.

President Lee's Letter to Govr Hamilton, 22d 8ber, 1750.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V., p. 464-5. † See Col. Rec. Vol. V., p. 463-4.

Rich'd Peters to President of Virg'a, 1750.

Sir:

The Governor being obliged to go to his other Government the moment the Assembly finished here, he gave it me in charge, if the Virginia Post should come in his absence, to send you copies of the Messages & other Papers necessary to convey a just Information of the Situation of Indian affairs, which have taken a surprising Turn, that may give his Majesties Government abundance of Trouble.

My Hurry made me leave out a necessary Paper when I made up the last Packet, I mean the Minutes of the Council when the Governor laid before the Board the Twightwees Message, which will serve to show that though it was addressed to the Governor of Pennsylvania only, yet it was really designed for all his Majesties Governments.

My conference with Broken Kettle, an Ohio Indian, who came to me at Mr. Croghan's, on his way to Col. Cresop's, was approved by the Governor & Council, & is, I assure you, perfectly agreeable to the Sentiments of the Proprietaries & every thinking Man in ye Goverment, for tho' Traders of different Provinces will be jealous of one another, & be led by a mistaken notion of Trade, or by a Regard to private Interest, to do ill offices to each other, yet the larger the Trade is & ye more of the Colonies who reap ye Benefit of it, the more it stregthens the General Interest, and at this time there is more than ever required a Union of Hearts as well as Purses to defeat ye indefatigable Industry of the French.

I am with a very perfect Esteem & Regard,

Your Honour's

most obedient

humble Servant,

RICHARD PETERS.

Philadelphia,
30th October, 1750.

The Hono'ble President of Virginia.

Indorsed.

Copy Mr. Peter's Letter to the President of Virginia, 30th 8ber, 1750.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V., p. 463--4.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] concerning the Alliance and Friendship
[illegible] that they have concluded to direct presents
[illegible] Six Nations, and also for the Shawanese, Delawares
other Nations settled near them.

Ordered that the Council attend the
to lay them before the Council at their next sitting.

Lieu. appt to
Lt. Governt
Regiment

At a Council held at Fort George in the
City of New York on the 20th day of November 1750.

Present

His Excellency the Honble George Clinton Capt. Gen.l & Gr
Wm Kennedy
Wm Smith } Esqrs.
Mr. Holland.

His Excellency laid before the Board a Mandamus by their
Excellencys the Lords Justices directing his Excellency to restore
James Alexander Esqr. to his Seat and Rank in his Majesty's
Council of this province which was read and is as follows.

By the Lords Justices

Ho. Cantuar: Hardwicke. C.
Lower L. P. S Bridgwr
Dunst. P.
C. Pelham.

Whereas his late Majesty was in the year 1721 graciously
pleased to appoint James Alexander Esquire to be one of his
Majesty's Council in his province of New York & he was by Mistake
not named among those persons who, by his Majesty's Instructions
to you, were then appointed to be his Council for the said Province
and the said James Alexander thereby became deprived of his Seat
in the said Council And you having upon the Death of Sir William
recommended the said James Alexander to be restored to his Seat in
the said Council as a person every way qualified for that Station
We are therefore in his Majesty's Name to authorize and direct
you, upon Receipt hereof, to restore the said James Alexander to his
Seat and Rank in the said Council And for so doing this shall be
your Warrant given at Whitehall the second day of August 1750
in the twenty fourth year of his Majesty's Reign.

By their Excellencies Command.
W. Sloper Secr.

His Majesty having by his Royal Instructions
Captain General and Governor in Chief
of his Province of New York in America
given his Licence to the Commander in
Chief for the time being of his Majesty's
Council of the said Province for the

Mount Johnson Decr 4th 1750

At the desire of the Five Nations Called the Chiefs of the Mohawkes to my House, where Sarraghiadaga a Cajuga Sachim after the Usuall Complements spoke to me as follows

Brother Corlear, & Warraghiyagee.

I am sent here by the five Nations, with a piece of writeing, which the Senecas our Brethren, got by some Artifice from Jean Coeur, to you Carried by Interpreting you will let us Know what it means, & we put all our Confidence in you our Brother, hope you will explain it ingeniously to us. Delivered a Leaden square Tube

a Belt of Wampum

Brother I am ordered further to acquaint you, that Jean Coeur the Frenchman Interpreter when on his Journey (this last Summer) to Ohio River spoke thus to the five Nations, & others in our Alliance.

Children, your Father, (meaning the French King) being mightily tender regard for you, considered the great difficultys you labour under by carrying your Goods, Canoes & all over the great Carrying Place of Niagra, has desired me to acquaint you, that in order to ease you all for ever in future trouble, he is resolved to build a House at the Lower end, & find Carrying Horses, which he will furnish with all necessarys required for your use.

a Belt of Wampum

Brother, Jean Coeur also told us that he was now on his way to Ohio River, where he intended to stay three Years, & desired us to Accompany him thither, which we refused, whereupon he then desired to have some of our People along with him, in as much as it was for our Interest, & ease, to go that Way, to Build a House there also, all the Carrying place between said River & Ohio & Lake Erie. Where all the Western Indians should be supplyed with whatever Goods they may have Occasion for & not be at their trouble, & loss of time of going so far to Montreal as usuall, meaning Oswego. After this, he desired to know our Opinion of the Affair, & begged our Consent to Build in said Place. he gave us a large Belt of Wampum then. Desiring our answer, which we told him we would take some time to Consider of.

Brother we have nothing further to add at present, but to acquaint you that your Brethren the Senecas, have made two New Sachems, which they desired I would let you know, & their Titles, so that when you may have Occasion to Speak to them, you should not be at a loss therein, they are called, Onogharidiawy and Sagoyigeona two very good Men, whom we hope may be agreeable to you.

a String of Wampum

Brethren of the Three Nations,

I am always glad to see you here at my House, but never more so, than at this Juncture: will put it in my power now to be of the Greatest Service to you, and of Convincing you that the confidence you have always reposed in me, was Justly Grounded: I will ever prove the greatest advantage to you, while you continue to Behave as you should, & follow your Brother the Govr. Advice. & not suffer your selves to be misled or misled by the fine Speeches of your greatest Enemy the French, who have not, nor never had your Welfare at heart, as you are sensible of from their many former Cruelties, & ill treatment to your People, But their scheme you find against you, & yours, all a time when they are feeding you up with fine promises of serveing you in every thing whatever, as you will appear by their own writeing here on this Belt. Note, I repeat here the substance of said writeing with some necessary Additions. & every Belt of Wampum to Confirm what I said. which Belt with the rest are to be sent through all the Nations, as far as Ohio River.

Brethren this is an affair of the greatest importance to you, as nothing less than all your Lands, & that Tanting place are aimed at, with a view of excluding you intirely from it, & the rest of your Brethren, Viz. the Ottawa, Chippewa, Pinnawa &c. who can always supply you with the necessarys of life at a much lower rate than the French ever did, or could, & under whose Protection you are, & ever will be safe, & better served, in every respect than under the French. these, & a thousand other substantial reasons I could give you, to convince you that the French are your Implacable Enemys, but as I told you before, the very Contriment you now brought me of their own writeing is sufficient of it self to convince the World of their villanous designs, & therefore I need not be at the trouble, so shall only desire that you, & all other Nations in Alliance with You, seriously consider your own Interest, & by no means submit to the impending danger which now threatens You; the only way to prevent it is to burn Fort Du Quesne immediately from Ohio, & tell him that the French shall neither build, there or at the carrying place of Niagara, nor have a foot of Land more from You. Brethren what I now say I expect, & insist upon, it be taken notice of, & sent to the Indians at Ohio. that they may immediately know the Vile designs of the French.

A Belt of Wampum

Brother Corlear & Warraghiyagee

I have with great attention, & surprise heard you repeat the Substance of that Double writing which I brought You, & also with pleasure noticed your Just Remarks thereon, which really agree with my own Sentiments on it, I return You my most hearty thanks in the Name of all the Nations for your Brotherly Love, Cordial advice, which I promise You sincerely by this Belt of Wampum shall be communicated immediately, & Verbatim to the five Nations by my Self. & moreover shall we it forwarded from the Seneca Castle, with Belts from Each of Our own Nations to the Indians att Ohio, to Strengthen your desire, as I am thoroughly Satisfied You have Our Interest at heart

Governor Clinton to the Lords of Trade.

[New-York Papers, Hh., No. 134.]

My Lords

In my letter to your Lps. of the 19th Ult° I acquainted you with my Expectation of Receiving a Leaden Plate, from Coll° Johnson lately got from the French, touching a pretended claim of theirs to lands near the River Ohio; I have since received it, and now enclose a copy of the superscription thereon, and of the speech made to Coll Johnson by a Sachim of the Cayouga Nation of Indians, sent by the five Nations to inform himself of the purport of that Plate, of which I have also sent copies to Governor Hamilton the only step the Council thought necessary at this time to be taken by me on the occasion

I have the Honor to be with
very great regard
My Lords
Your Lordships most
obedient humble Servant
G Clinton.

New York 17th Janry 1750

Conference between Colonel Johnson and a Cayuga Sachem.

[New-York Papers, Hh., No. 135.]

Mount Johnson
Dec 4th 1750.

Att the desire of the Five Nations I called the Cheifs of the Mohawks to my house where Scanaghtradeya Cayuga Sachim after the usual compliments spoke to me as follows

Brother Corlear, & Warraghiyagee

I am sent here by the five Nations (with a piece of Writing which the Senecas our Bretheren, got by some artifice from Jean Cour) to you ernestly beseeching you will let us know what it means, and as we put all our confidence in you our brother, hope you will explain it ingeniously to us. delivered a Leaden Square Plate. A Belt of Wampum

Brother

I am ordered further to acquaint you, that Jn Cour the French Interpreter when on his journey (this last summer) to Ohio River spoke thus to the five Nations, and others in our alliance

Children

Your Father (meaning the French Governor) having out of a Tender regard for you, consider the great difficultys you labour under, by carrying your Goods, Canoes &c, over the great carrying place of Niagra, has desired me to acquaint you that in order to ease you all of so much trouble for the Future, he is resolved to build a house at the other end, of said carrying place which he will furnish with all Necessarys requisite for your use A Belt of Wampum.

Brother,

Jean Cour, also told us that he was now on his way to Ohio River, where he intended to stay three years, & desired some of us to accompany him thither, which we refused, whereupon he answered he was much surprized at our not consenting to go with him in as much as it was for our Interest & ease he was sent thither to build a house there also, at the carrying place between said River Ohio & Lake Erie, Where all the Western Indians should be supplyed with whatever goods they may have occasion for, & not be at the trouble & Loss of time of going so far to Markett as usual, (meaning Oswego) after this he desired to know our opinion of the affair, & begged our consent to build in said Places, he gave us a large Belt of Wampum therewith desiring our Answer which we told him we would take some time to consider of

Brother, we have nothing further to add at present but to acquaint you that your Brethren the Senecas have made two New Sachims which they desired I would let you know & their Titles, so that when you may have occasion to speak to them, yo should not be at a loss therein, they are called Onoghcaritawey, & Sagangiona two very good men, whom we hope may be agreeable to you A String of Wampum

Brethren of the five Nations

I am always glad to see you here at my house, but never more so than at this juncture, as it puts it in my Power now to be of the greatest Service to you, and of convincing you, that the confidence you have always reposed in me, was justly grounded, and will ever prove the greatest advantage to you while you continue to behave as you should & follow your brother the Governors advice, & not suffer yourselves to be wheedled or misled by the fine Speeches, of your greatest enemy the French, who have not nor never had, your Welfare at Heart, as you are sensible of, from their many former cruelties & ill Treatment to your people, But their Scheme now laid against you, & yours (at a time when they are feeding you up with fine Premises of serving you in several Shapes) is worse than all the rest, as will appear by their own writing here on this Plate . . *Note.* I repeat here the substance of said writing with some necessary additions. Giving a large Belt of Wampum to confirm what I said, which Belt with the rest are to be sent through all the Nations, as far as Ohio River

Brethren this is an Affair of the greatest importance to you, as nothing less than all your Lands, and best Hunting Places are aimed at with a view of secluding you entirely from us, & the rest of your Brethren, vizt the Philadelphians, Virginians &ca, who can always supply you with the necessarys of Life, at a much lower rate than the French ever did, or could, & under whose Protection you are, & ever will be safer and better served in every respect, than under the French. These and a hundred other substantial reasons I could give you to convince yeu that the French are your implacable ennemies. But as I told you before the very Instrument you now brought me of their own writing, is sufficient of itself to convince the world of their Villainous designs, therefore I need not be at the trouble so shall only desire that you & all other Nations in alliance with you, seriously consider your own Interest, & by no means submit to the impending danger which now threatens you; the only way to prevent which, is to turn Jean Cour away immediately from Ohio, & tell him that the French shall neither build there, or at the carrying place of Niagara, nor have a foot of Land more from you.

Brethren what I now say I expect & insist upon it be taken notice of & sent to the Indians at Ohio, that they may immediately know the vile designs of the French.

A Belt of Wampum

Brother Corlear & Warraghiyagee

I have with great attention & surprise, heard you repeat the substance of that Devilish Writing which I brought you & also with pleasure noticed your just remarks thereon, which really agree with my own sentiments on it. I return you my most hearty thanks in the name of all the Nations for your Brotherly love and Cordial advice which I promise you sincerly (by this Belt of Wampum) shall be communicated immediately and verbatim to the five Nations by myself & more over shall see it forwarded from the Senecas Castle with Belts from each of our own Nations to the Indians at Ohio to Strengthen your desire as I am thoroughly satisfied you have our Interest at Heart

WILLIAM JOHNSON

New York
A true Copy Exam^{d} by
Gw. BANYAR D^{y} S. Con.

Inscription on the French Leaden Plate above referred to.

[New-York Papers, Hh., 136.]

[TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.]

IN THE YEAR 1749, DURING THE REIGN OF LOUIS XV., KING OF FRANCE, WE CELORON, COMMANDER OF A DETACHMENT SENT BY MONSIEUR THE MARQUIS DE LA GALISSONIERE, COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF NEW FRANCE, FOR THE RESTORATION OF TRANQUILLITY IN SOME VILLAGES OF INDIANS OF THESE DISTRICTS, HAVE BURIED THIS PLATE AT THE CONFLUENCE OF THE OHIO AND TCHADAKOIN, THIS 29 JULY, NEAR THE RIVER OHIO, OTHERWISE BEAUTIFUL RIVER AS A MONUMENT OF THE RENEWAL OF POSSESSION WHICH WE HAVE TAKEN OF THE SAID RIVER OHIO AND OF ALL THOSE THAT THEREIN FALL, AND OF ALL THE LANDS ON BOTH SIDES AS FAR AS THE SOURCES OF THE SAID RIVERS, AS ENJOYED OR OUGHT TO BE ENJOYED BY THE PRECEDING KINGS OF FRANCE AND AS THEY THEREIN HAVE MAINTAINED THEMSELVES BY ARMS AND BY TREATIES, ESPECIALLY BY THOSE OF RISWICK, OF UTRECHT, AND OF AIX-LA-CHAPELLE.

L'AN 1749 DV REGNE DE LOVIS XV ROY DE
'FRANCE NOVS CELORON COMMANDANT DVN
DETACHEMENT ENVOIÉ PAR MONSIEVR LE. M.rs
DE LA GALISSONIERE COMMANDANT GENERAL DE
LA NOUVELLE FRANCE POVR RETABLIR LA
TRANQVILLITÉ DANS QVELQVES VILLAGES SAUVAGES
DE CES CANTONS AVONS ENTERRÉ CETTE PLAQVE
AU CONFLUENT DE LOHIO ET DETCHADAKOIN CE 29 iVILLET
PRES DE LA RIVIERE OYO AUTREMENT BELLE
RIVIERE POVR MONUMENT DU RENOUVELLEMENT DE
POSSESSION QUE NOUS AVONS PRIS DE LA DITTE
RIVIERE OYO ET DE TOUTES CELLES QUI Y
TOMBENT ET DE TOUTES LES TERRES DES DEUX
CÔTES JVSQVE AVX SOVRCES DES DITTES RIVIERES
AINSI QVÉN ONT JOVY OV DÛ JOVÏR LES
PRECEDENTS ROIS DE FRANCE ET QUILS SÝ
SONT MAINTENVS PAR LES ARMES ET PAR LES
TRAITTES SPECIALEMENT PAR CEVX DE RISWICK
D'VTRECHT ET D'AIX LA CHAPELLE

Copy of the Superscription on a leaden Plate Col. Johnson lately got from the French; being a pretended Claim of theirs to Lands near the River Ohio. Bearing date the 29th of July 1749.
Recd with Govr Clinton's letter dated ye 17th of Janry 1750|1.

a true Copy Compar'd by
Peter De Joncourt, Interprette.

Mount Johnson Decbr 4th 1750

All the devne of the Five Nations I called the Chiefs of the Mohawks to my House, where Scanaghraideya Cajuga Sachim after the Usuall Compliments spoke to me as Follows.

Brother Corlear, & Warraghiyagee.

I am sent here by the Five Nations, (with a piece of Writing, which the Senecas our Brethren, got by some Artifice from Jean Cour) to you. Earnestly beseeching you will let us know what it means, & as we put all our Confidence in you our Brother, hope you will explain it ingeniously to us. delivered a Leaden square Plate.

A Belt of Wampum

Brother I am ordered further to acquaint you, that Jean Cour the French Interpreter when on his Journey (this Last Summer) to Ohio River spoke thus to the five Nations, & there in our Alliance.

Children, your Father (meaning the French Govr) having out of a tender regard for you, considered the great Difficulties you Labour under, by carrying your goods, Canoes &c, over the great carrying Place of Niagra, has desired me to acquaint you, that in order to ease you all of so much trouble for the Future, he is resolved to Build a House at the other end, of said Carrying Place, which he will furnish with all Necessarys requisite for your Use.

A Belt of Wampum

Brother, Jean Cour, also told us that he was now on his way to Ohio River, where he intended to stay three Years, & desired some of us to accompany him thither, which we refused; whereupon he answered he

He was much surprised at our not consenting to go with him; in as much as it was four our Interest, & Ease, he was sent thither to Build a House there also, at the Carrying Place between said River Ohio & Lake Erie, — Where all the Western Indians should be supplyed with whatever Goods they may have Occasion for, & not be at the Trouble & Loss of time of going so far to Market as Usuall; (meaning Oswego.) after this he desired to know our Opinion of the Affair, & begged our Consent to Build in said Places. he gave us a large Belt of Wampum thereon Desireing our Answer, which we told him we would take some time to Consider of.

Brother we have Nothing further to add at present but to acquaint You, that your Brethereu the Senecas have made two New Sachims which they desired I would let you know, & their Titles; so that when you may have Occasion to speak to them, you should not be at a loss thereon, they are called Cnogheauitaawey and Ogangiona two verry good Men, whom we hope may be agreable to you.

A String of Wampum.

Brethereu of the Five Nations

I am always glad to see you here at my House, but never more so, then at this Juncture; as it puts it in my Power now to be of the Greatest Service to you, and of Convincing you, that the Confidence you have always reposed in me, was Justly Grounded, & will ever prove the greatest advantage to you, while you Continue to Behave as you should, & follow your Brother the Governors advice; & not suffer yourselves to be wheedled or Mislead by the fine Speeches, of your greatest Enemy the French, who have not, nor never had, your Welfare at Heart, as you are sensible of, from their many former Cruelties, & ill treatment to your People; But their Scheme now laid against you, & yours, (at a time when they are feeding you up with fine Promises of serving you in several Shapes) is worse than all the rest, as will appear by their own writing

here

here on this Plate. Note, I repeat here the Substance of said Writing with some necessary additions. Giveing a large Belt of Wampum to Confirm what I said. which Belt with the rest are to be sent thorough all the Nations, as far as Ohio River.

Brethren this is an affair of the greatest Importance to you, as nothing less than all your Lands, & best Hunting places are aimed at, with a view of Secluding you intirely from us, & the rest of your Brethren, viz: the Philadelphians, Virginians &ca, who can always Supply you with the Necessarys of Life, at a much lower rate than the French ever did, or could, & under whose Protection you are, & ever will be easer, & better served in every respect, than under the French. These & a Hundred other Substantiall reasons I could give you, to Convince you that the French are your Implacable Enemys. But as I told you before the verry Instrument you now brought me of their own writing, is Sufficient of it self to convince the World of their Villanous designs, therefore I need not be at the trouble, so shall only desire that you, & all other Nations in alliance with you, Seriously consider your own Interest, & by no means Submit to the impending danger which now threatens you; the only way to prevent which, is to turn Jean Coeur away Immediately from Ohio, & tell him that the French shall neither Build there, or att the carrying place of Niagara, nor have a foot of Land more from you.

Brethren what I now say I expect, & insist upon, it be taken notice of, & sent to the Indians all Ohio, that they may immediately know the vile designs of the French. A Belt of Wampum

Brother Corlear & Warraghiyagee

I have with great attention, & Surprise, heard you repeat the Substance of that Devilish writing which I Brought you; & also with pleasure noticed your Just Remarks thereon: which nealy agree with my own Sentiments on it, I return you my most Hearty thanks in the Name of all the Nations for your Brotherly Love & Condial advice, which I promise you Sincerely (by this Belt of Wampum) Shall be

communicated

Communicated immediately & verbatim, to the five Nations by my Self: & moreover shall see it forwarded from the Senecas Castle, with Belts from Each of our Own Nations, to the Indians at Ohio, to Strenghten your desire as I am thoroughly Satisfied you have our Interest at Heart.

William Johnson

New York. A true Copy Exam.d &c. P. Banyar D.S.Gen.d

Decem.r 4.th 1758.

Copy of a Speech of Sir William Johnson to the Indians at Ohio.

made to Coll Johnson by a Sachim of the Cayouga Nation of Indians, sent by the five Nations to inform himself of the purport of that Plate, of which I have also sent copies to Governor Hamilton the only step the Council thought necessary at this time to be taken by me on the occasion

I have the Honor to be with
very great regard
My Lords
Your Lordships most
obedient humble Servant
G CLINTON.

CONFERENCE BETWEEN SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON AND A CAYUGA SACHEM.

MOUNT JOHNSON *Dec 4th 1750.*

Att the desire of the Five Nations I called the Cheifs of the Mohawks to my house where Scanaghtradeya Cayuga Sachim after the usual compliments spoke to me as follows

Brother Corlear, & Warraghiyagee

I am sent here by the five Nations (with a piece of Writing which the Senecas our Bretheren, got by some artifice from Jean Cour) to you ernestly beseeching you will let us know what it means, and as we put all our confidence in you our brother, hope you will explain it ingeniously to us. delivered a Leaden Square Plate.

A Belt of Wampum

Brother

I am ordered further to acquaint you, that Jn Cour the French Interpreter when on his journey (this last summer) to Ohio River spoke thus to the five Nations, and others in our alliance

Children

Your Father (meaning the French Governor) having out of a Tender regard for you, consider the great difficultys you labour under, by carrying your Goods, Canoes &c, over the great carrying place of Niagra, has desired me to acquaint you that in order to ease you all of so much trouble for the Future, he is resolved to build a house at the other end, of said carrying place which he will furnish with all Necessarys requisite for your use

A Belt of Wampum.

Brother,

Jean Cour, also told us that he was now on his way to Ohio River, where he intended to stay three years, & desire some of us to ac-

company him thither, which we refused, whereupon he answered he was much surprized at our not consenting to go with him in as much as it was for our Interest & ease he was sent thither to build a house there also, at the carrying place between said River Ohio & Lake Erie, Where all the Western Indians should be supplyed with whatever goods they may have occasion for, & not be at the trouble & Loss of time of going so far to Markett as usual, (meaning Oswego) after this he desired to know our opinion of the affair, & begged our consent to build in said Places, he gave us a large Belt of Wampum therewith desiring our Answer which we told him we would take some time to consider of

Brother, we have nothing further to add at present but to acquaint you that your Brethren the Senecas have made two New Sachims which they desired I would let you know & their Titles, so that when you may have occasion to speak to them, yo should not be at a loss therein, they are called Onoghcaritawey & Sagangiona two very good men, whom we hope may be agreeable to you

A String of Wampum

Brethren of the five Nations

I am always glad to see you here at my house, but never more so than at this juncture, as it puts it in my Power now to be of the greatest Service to you, and of convincing you, that the confidence you have always reposed in me, was justly grounded, and will ever prove the greatest advantage to you while you continue to behave as you should & follow your brother the Governors advice, & not suffer yourselves to be wheedled or misled by the fine Speeches, of your greatest enemy the French, who have not nor never had, your Welfare at Heart, as you are sensible of, from their many former cruelties & ill Treatment to your people, But their Scheme now laid against you, & yours (at a time when they are feeding you up with fine Promises of serving you in several Shapes) is worse than all the rest, as will appear by their own writing here on this Plate . . *Note.* I repeat here the substance of said writing with some necessary additions. Giving a large Belt of Wampum to confirm what I said, which Belt with the rest are to be sent through all the Nations, as far as Ohio River

Brethren this is an Affair of the greatest importance to you, as nothing less than all your Lands, and best Hunting Places are aimed at with a view of secluding you entirely from us, & the rest of your Bretheren, vizt the Philadelphians, Virginians &ca, who can always supply you with the necessarys of Life, at a much lower rate than the French ever did, or could, and under whose Protection you are, & ever will be safer and better served in every respect, than under the French. These and a hundred other substantial reasons I could give you to convince you that the French are your implacable ennemies. But as I told you before the very Instru-

ment you now brought me of their own writing, is sufficient of itsself to convince the world of their Villainous designs, therefore I need not be at the trouble so shall only desire that you & all other Nations in alliance with you, seriously consider your own Interest, & by no means submit to the impending danger which now threatens you; the only way to prevent which, is to turn Jean Cour away immediately from Ohio, & tell him that the French shall neither build there, or at the carrying place of Niagara, nor have a foot of Land more from you.

Brethren what I now say I expect & insist upon it be taken notice of & sent to the Indians at Ohio, that they may immediately know the vile designs of the French.

A Belt of Wampum

Brother Corlear & Warraghiyagee

I have with great attention & surprise, heard you repeat the substance of that Devilish Writing which I brought you & also with pleasure notice your just remarks thereon, which really agree with my own sentiments on it. I return you my most hearty thanks in in the name of all the Nations for your Brotherly love and Cordial advice which I promise you sincerly (by this Belt of Wampum) shall be communicated immediately and verbatim to the five Nations by myself & more over shall see it forwarded from the Senecas Castle with Belts from each of our own Nations to the Indians at Ohio to Strengthen your desire as I am thoroughly satisfied you have our Interest at Heart

WILLIAM JOHNSON.

LIEUTENANT LINDSAY'S REPORT OF INDIAN NEWS, &c.

A Report of the News I have had from the Indians &c

Oswego Feb 5th 17$\frac{50}{51}$. Came here three Frenchmen from Onondaga, and told me they were come from the place Joncaire was at (on the River Ohio) with a message to the Governor of Canada, desiring men &c to be sent him in order to build a Fort there, I understood they had been at our several castles, telling them what they were to do soon after Adrawanah (one of the Cheifs of the Cahugah Castle) came here, I spoke to him of this, and told him they might now see the bad consequence of our Indians going to Canada, and receiving presents from the Governor of said place, for now he looked on them as his Slaves, and Tributaries and did what he pleased without their leave or consent.

so much of your Letter as relates to the paragraph of his which I sent you & those papers I send him, & also concerning my Son w^h^ my Sons Letter open to be Sealed by him & delivered to Mr Catherwood

I have dined once with the Govr at the fort & once at Rutherfoards, my wife & I was with the Club on fryday night last at the fort & the Club is to be at my house on fryday next, the Govr seems very chearfull and in good health, you have been his toast every one of those three times that I have been in Company with him, on ffryday night Mrs Clinton found fault with his toasting of you for that you were her Constant toast I believe all things stand well for sending your son down and makeing the application you proposed I have been thinking it would be more Safe to leave the Commission to you & son and Survivor than for you to Surrender in favour of your Son, for as the most healthy are often Soon Snatcht away by Death, if such a thing should happen in your Life you might have reason to repent the Surrender many offices in England are granted to two persons and the Survivor and why yours may not be the Same way I See no reason

As to the opinion of the manner it may be best to apply to the Govr; I think it will be best by a Letter to the Govr on that head only wrote so as to be Laid before the Council, either Surrendering your office in favour of your Son if you choose to Continue your former mind, or rather I think it better to request the Commission for yourself & Son and Survivor and as to all other affairs at the Same time, they to be in a Separate Letter

But yet Least Such Objections Should be made as cannot be answered against giveing the Commission to you & Son and Survivor, I think it were best to Send by your Son a Letter of Surrender not to be Delivered or mentioned to the Govr but in the above case, which I think cannot well happen

Machet arrived on Saturday last from London, I had no Letter by him, but the Govr had one from Chief

Justice Morris, the ship had 4 weeks passage & Sailed in a day or two after Cornee so that there can be no news by him

Cornee talks of Sailing the 15th & Dean about Christmas for London

I know of no opportunity to send this by and intend immediately to Send it to Mr Nichols to go by the first opportunity. I am Dr Sir

Your most affectionat & most
humble Servant
JA: ALEXANDER

[Endorsed]
To The honourable
CADWALLADER COLDEN Esq
att
Coldenham

From John Ayscough

FORT GEORGE 11th December 1750

Sr

Yours of 5th Instant his Excellency received and orders me to acquaint you that 24th ultimo I wrote to you by Capt Benthuysen two Letters, the first dated that day the other 3d Instant which I suppose were not come to hand, when you wrote yours, the first Letter was to have been sent by one or two opportunities, as you will see by the directions, but waited for News from Home, and from the Assembly here; The only material Point on the Carpet now, is the Indian Affairs which have been twice before the Council, and it is determined at that Board that his Exellency should write to all the Governours upon the Continent that have any Indian Nations dependent on them; or in alliance with them, to invite them or Commissioners from their respective Governmts to join in a Treaty with the several Indian Nations, the first Week in June next at Albany, in order to fix an Alliance with them and the Six Nations & defeat the art-

full designs of the French in inviting them to wage War one with the other, as the only means to withdraw them from us, and make them dependent upon Canada & their Indians I am sorry to hear Miss Colden is reduced so weak, but hope proper methods will soon reinstate her, Mrs Roddam still continues very weak. I am S^{r} with my best wishes and Compliments to the good Family

Your very humble Servt

J. AYSCOUGH

PS

His Exellency has received a Letter 8th Inst by Machet from C. J Morris who says nothing will be done in his affairs till the King comes home & that there is an Order coming from the Regency for Parks the Gunners mate to be delivered up, in order for his coming home to give Evidence at Mr Howe's Tryal & we Suppose a Smart Reprimand to the magistrates for committing him in pursuance of the Civil Law

---

Colden to Alexander

[Copy]

COLDENGHAM Decr 15th 1750

S^{r}

My son Alexander now waits on you in hopes of perfecting what I have several times talkt of to you I enclose my letters to the Govr open that you may peruse them & I must beg the favour of you to deliver them with your own hand that in case the Govr have any scruple or receive any Jealousy you may remove them I do not think it advisable to send the letters otherwise least he think proper to advise with Ayscough or Williams or to speak of it to any about him before it is passed in Council & if possible the Seal to it there is the same reason that this office be during good behaviour that there is for the clerks of the Counties & its being so

can as little affect the affairs of Gov[t] The season of the year & the necessity of my son's returning speedily may be made use of for dispatch My letters to M[r] Kennedy & M[r] Rutherfurd are not to be deliver'd till after you have talkt with the Gov[r] & he is resolv'd on what I request It may even be proper that they be not deliver'd till the evening or morning before the Council is to meet to prevent its being talkt of to others of which likewise please to approve the Gov[r] as to his speaking to the Mayor My son will follow your Directions as to every part of his conduct

I must likewise beg the favour of you to draw a Deed of Trust wherein he is to declare that he holds the said office in trust for me & for my Benefite & to account with me & to pay to me The Sallary Perquesites fees & Profits which he shall reserve thereon during my life I find there are several instances of offices being in trust for others by precedents of Deeds in the last Edition of Lilly's Conveyances when my son has executed this Deed please to keep it in your Custody till I shall send for it or receive it from you

I shall conclude with telling you that as my age renders me unfit for the bustle of the world I hope by the gaining of this point in favour of my son to pass the remainder of life with more ease & quiet not that I propose to pass it in sloth & indolence but in such kind of philosophical amusement in which I take most pleasure & which I hope may be of some use to & preserve my memory in some degree with posterity I have already made the rough draft of the Theory of the planets motion from the Principles of Action in matter I have the Vanity to think that however partial you have been in favour of what I formerly did they will please you more than any thing you have seen from me.

M[r] ALEXANDER

138

Sir / Fort George in New York 18th December 1750.

I take this early Opportunity to acquaint you with my Intentions, to meet the Six Nations of Indians and their Allies at Albany, the first Week in June next. In hopes of Confirming them in the British Interest, and defeating the Intrigues of the French, who of late have been very Active among them, and by the large quantitys of Goods they have distributed to the several Nations, may have rendered their Fidelity to the English very precarious.

The Expence this Government hath continually supported to preserve the Indians in a good disposition towards us, has been very burthensome, and the great pains the French are taking to seduce them, will greatly increase this Charge, which any Single Colony will be unable to bear. If the other Colonies should neglect joining therein, it may give Our Rivals the Advantage they have been long labouring to obtain over the English Governments, and in the end be a Means of our losing the Indians, and with them a very valuable Branch of Trade. Besides the Calamities we may have Reason to fear from their going over to the French, which are too obvious to need mentioning.

The present wavering disposition of the Indians

The Hon.ble The Presid.t of the Council of Connecticut

may.

...may in a great measure be imputed to their dread of the French, which will ever Influence their Conduct, as long as the Colonies remain disunited in their measures. But if they see we are united, and resolved hereafter to Act in Conjunction, their fears will disperse, and they may easily be brought to look with Contempt, on what they before dreaded, seeing they might then rely on a powerfull Assistance from us, if the French should attack them. And as nothing can more tend to his Majesty's Service, and the Welfare and safety of his Provinces, than this Union of Councils amongst the several Governours upon Indian affairs. I do now Communicate my Thoughts on this head, to all the Governours of the British Colonies upon the Main of America: in hopes that they will see the necessity of establishing such an Union, and if they cannot attend the Treaty at Albany in Season, then to send Commissioners to concert and conclude on the necessary Measures, to be taken on this Important occasion. & assuring my self they will come furnished with proper presents to be distributed among the Indians at this Meeting. Which I flatter my self with your assistance, or that of Commissioners from your Governments.

If this proposal of an Interview between the several Governours, or Commissioners representing them be approved of, and they meet accordingly, it will I conceive be very proper they should examine into, and draw up a state of the Indian affairs, to be laid before his Majesty, and at the same time Consider whether it would not be a proper Step, to agree on a Representation to the Governour General of Canada, touching

the

the Conduct of some of the Governours and Officers under him, who have been guilty of Infractions of the Treaties of Peace & Subsisting between Great Britain and France, and particularly of the 15th: Article of the Treaty of Utrecht: Especially if it is done with such a Concurrence, upon good proofs, which I hope all who know of any such, will come furnished with, or with the means of procuring them.

Some other Governments I send this Letter to, may possibly think they have no concern with Indian Affairs, because other Provinces lay between them and the Indians. But if our Indians should be gained by the French, they may soon be induced to harrass the Colonies lying between such other Governments and the Indians, so as to oblige the Inhabitants to desert them, as lately happened to the greatest part of the County of Albany in this Province. In this case (which God avert) they will find, when too late, that they had an Interest in Indian Affairs, to which if they had duly attended, these dreadfull consequences might for ever have been prevented — And as the very News of such an Union of Councils, must on the one hand greatly Encourage the Indians to be steady to the British Interest, so on the other, it may tend to discourage the French from continuing their Endeavours to draw over our Indians from us. I am

Sir

Your Honours very humble Servt

Wm Johnson

From
Gen. Clinton
Dec. 18th 1750
Rec'd Jan 4th

The Two Govrs next Speak to the River Indians praising them for & exhorting them to continue in their Fidelity to His Majesty —

To wch they return a Suitable Answer ——

here Ends the Records of Indian Affairs bound up in 4 Volumes Folio. —

The only remaining Account of the proceedings in Indian Affairs wch I can meet with among the Records & Papers in my Custody is a Meeting of Govr Clinton Commissrs from Massachusetts Bay, Connecticut & Mr Bull with Delegates from the Cattabaw Nation in South Carolina with the 6 Nations at Albany the 1 July 1751. —

The Chief Buisness done at this Meeting was to make a Peace & Union between the 6 Nations & the Cattabaws & other Indians subjects to his Majesty in the Province of South Carolina — wch was accordingly effected. —

I find by the 6 Nations Speech to Govr Clinton that Col Johnson had declined acting any further in Indian Affairs wch the 6 Nations took Notice of with the warmest Expressions of Sorrow & Concern & desired the Govr would reinstate him & when he arrived in England would apply to His Majesty to have him appointed to Manage the Indian Affairs —

Govr Clinton takes notice to them of a Fort the French are Building at Oniagara [1] he represents to them the Fatal Consequences of their suffering (p. 224) French to environ them with their Forts & directs them to prohibit their going on with any such Buildings. he also mentions the French going to build a Fort near the Ohio —

The 6 Nations in their Answer say they have already dispatched an Embassy to Canada about these Buildings of the French & shall take further measures about them & they add further in their said Speech. —

" We desire your Excellcy will carry a Message [for us] from us & inform the King our Father that the French are endeavouring to take away our Lands & Build Forts on them & beg that the

[1] Between Lake Erie & Lake Ontario to the Southward of Niagara

King will inform the King of France of the Proceedings of his Subjects that he may put a Stop to it for that the Land belongs to the King our Father & the Gov[r] of this Province.[1] —

[1] This Claim of the Indians of the 6 Nations & the consequent right of the Crown of Great Britain by their having repeatedly put themselves & all their Lands both Occupied & Conquered under the Dominion & protection of the Crown of Great Britain, is so well supported by incontestible Proofs in the Indian Records from their earliest Period to this Day & w[ch] I have taken care to mention frequently in these Abstracts. [that unless] hence as I conclude all the French Forts from Crown Point to West end of Lake Erie along the South side of the River S[t] Laurens & of the Lakes Ontario & Erie, are unjustifiable Encroachments & contrary to the Law of Nature & of Nations.

The Army Intends to draw off the French from their Land & Intrench for what they are Building near Niagara.

They said that the Commander went to Canada on that purport to have the Land Intrench'd & to prevent the French from Building any more Forts. and they the Commander would be at home before them they would inform what Answer they had that the Gov.r will should be done in that Case. that Governor on the Lake Erie Canadian Rayon joined them & made publick Declaration against the French. the thanked the Gov.r for his Negotiating them with the King of England and prayed he would recommend them to the King then desired he would present his

the King to Peace of Ryswick
Crown. the Indians Lived by Treaty
with the French King. they desired
that the King would Establish
Mr Johnson to be his Manager of
Indian affairs as they had no
friend but him. they desired that
he might be now re Established by
the Lord & that the King Confirm
it & that at least his Excell
would appoint a person for them
to Reside with the Indians
Seneca's & Onondagas if none else
appointed wished his Excell a good
Journey said they would for
further his late arrival
desired he would be graciously
pleased to
a Belt & Several strings

The Indians by Tegnaqida made
answer and said. We are glad to
see the Catabaws by our Council fire
and we thank them for their kind
speech and after we have Considered
the will give them our answer
which will be to Morrow morning.

The Catabaws shook hand with most
of them and then sung by his
Leave about 4 Clock. Body and
Soul prased him

The 4 Chief on the 2d to desire
to deliver my Message was to Let us
know the Catabaws Had their ans.
for the 3d Council shall Day Council
Fire over come. but not all
Dined & Supped with Mr Bull. the
Indian Chief of Diamond saying he
& his are taken away again

the Indians became more Troyable
& troublesome to me. The Great Running Cattle
the Bill of the Indians & Butchers and
others. The Indians seemed to be most
of Honour because no present they
were to have before the Great Their
Lives to the Chiefs & others.

[illegible]

Feb 10 [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] we give you
this Belt of Wampum & clear
cleare your neck as a token that
you are our friends that have
been at our Councel fire
we give you another Belt of
Wampum to make you more pow-
full and so on / the Indian said
to make you Horses / and in next
time you Come again you must
bring the prisoners you have of
ours with you for this is the
Custom among all the Indians

when they Come to make peace to
Bring the prisoners with you them
Which is always taken as a Sure
token of their Sincerity Which Colon
might have be many mainted me
better Insist upon that he may
Bring you Come you Bring at least
a our people that are prisoners
amongst you with you and we
will [illegible] the prisoners we have of
you then at Liberty also a token
of your Sincerity we'll be of you
Come to our Town in the North
Country within 12 months.

The Catalans answer

Brethren we thanks you for your
kind speech. we will see you

again in a very short time &
if you would be so good to Lend
2 or 3 or more of your people
with us to our Country we will
take good Care of them and Come with
them back to your Country and bring
the provisions with us.

the 6 nation cried, Brethren this
is never done that we send of your
people with strangers at first time
Come the first time but when they
Come the 2 or 3 time we send people
with them and some will die with
you.

Between the Palawas as there
is a great number of Indians
in it will take some

[illegible] before we can write them all
[illegible] what is here passed. we
must desire that when you come
again you will come again by Wells
for that is the Indians you will
meet with by the way will tell you
for all the Indians south of Virginia
[illegible] & resolve are in league
with us. we must further desire
you to stay & speak with your
[illegible] Governor President of S. Carolina
& tell him that you are the two people
that will give him a Barrel of
Beer to drink with the Indians
and the first time we travel
and to [illegible] with us may
after hearing [illegible]. Lastly

I declare my Message Provided I
had no Busy Else to Stay to Hear
Him was Mentioned in Mr Hamilton's
Letter to me I declared I had no
Ob he was Content and Red him
Him to Come to Shew of Time
and Then I Informed him I Should
Hear Him Declare my Message
that Evening at my Lodging they
accordingly appeared and I had
Conversation on another Subject
Ev^r the which he did after he
according to Indian fashion Sang
some Lamentation Songs and
Lectures up & down the room he
Told them by a Series of his own
Life & Conduct how Ready he was
to Comply to my

Them was the words of the two
Brethren the Govr & the people
of Pensilvania. a Strong was

2. Brethren. The Govr & people of

Extract of a Letter from Thomas Lee Esq. President of the Council and Commander in Chief of Virginia to the Board of Trade dated Nov.r 6.th 1750

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE
COLONIAL
OFFICE

I sent a Messenger and a very knowing Interpreter to Onontagoe where the Six Nations hold their Great Council to know of them when they would meet and to receive the Kings Present to the Interpreter (a Man that is perfectly acquainted with them and their Designs) found them quite altered from their former way of thinking, having left the British Interest and gone over to that of the French, at least one half of them, and there is Reason to believe the rest will follow. Since the Peace, the French Missionaries have perverted many of them, so laying hold of their Consciences and their Necessities with large Presents

while

while there was not sufficient Counter-
acting on our side, this mischievous
Consequence has happened. I will try to
secure the Ohio Indians who are increas'd
to near 2000 fighting Men. I am told, and
if the German Protestants can obtain
an Exemption from Parochial Dues,
they will fill the large Grant on Our
Frontiers, and it shall thereby be too
strong for all Our Enemies: they are
natural Enemies to the French, and
the Indians without their Assistance
will not be able to do much Hurt.

Tis this Liberty that fills Pen-
sylvania with People, and there seems
to be Reason for it as these People have
Teachers of their Own, and do not under-
stand the Language of Ours, besides that
probably there will not be any of Our
Ministers for many Years that will
live within a hundred Miles of these
Settlements.

Extract of
a Letter from Col.o
Lee, President and
Commander in Chief
of Virginia, to the
Board of Trade, dated
Nov.r 6.th 1750.

vi the Lords of Trade of the 4.th
Jan.y 1750/1

ment you now brought me of their own writing, is sufficient of itsself to convince the world of their Villainous designs, therefore I need not be at the trouble so shall only desire that you & all other Nations in alliance with you, seriously consider your own Interest, & by no means submit to the impending danger which now threatens you; the only way to prevent which, is to turn Jean Cour away immediately from Ohio, & tell him that the French shall neither build there, or at the carrying place of Niagara, nor have a foot of Land more from you.

Brethren what I now say I expect & insist upon it be taken notice of & sent to the Indians at Ohio, that they may immediately know the vile designs of the French.

A Belt of Wampum

Brother Corlear & Warraghiyagee

I have with great attention & surprise, heard you repeat the substance of that Devilish Writing which I brought you & also with pleasure notice your just remarks thereon, which really agree with my own sentiments on it. I return you my most hearty thanks in in the name of all the Nations for your Brotherly love and Cordial advice which I promise you sincerly (by this Belt of Wampum) shall be communicated immediately and verbatim to the five Nations by myself & more over shall see it forwarded from the Senecas Castle with Belts from each of our own Nations to the Indians at Ohio to Strengthen your desire as I am thoroughly satisfied you have our Interest at Heart

WILLIAM JOHNSON.

LIEUTENANT LINDSAY'S REPORT OF INDIAN NEWS, &c.

A Report of the News I have had from the Indians &c

Oswego Feb 5th $17\frac{30}{31}$. Came here three Frenchmen from Onondaga, and told me they were come from the place Joncaire was at (on the River Ohio) with a message to the Governor of Canada, desiring men &c to be sent him in order to build a Fort there, I understood they had been at our several castles, telling them what they were to do soon after Adrawanah (one of the Cheifs of the Cahugah Castle) came here, I spoke to him of this, and told him they might now see the bad consequence of our Indians going to Canada, and receiving presents from the Governor of said place, for now he looked on them as his Slaves, and Tributaries and did what he pleased without their leave or consent.

I also told him I was informed they had built a Fort at the Carrying place (above Niagara) from the Iry to this Lake, and desired if they had any regard for their own property, that they would have a stop put to it. He replyed the five Nations had heard of this Fort and had appointed some Indians to go and prevent the building it further

April 3rd Joncaires Brother came here in his way to Niagara, and said he was going to command the new Fort on the carrying place above Niagara.

May 4th Came here a Mesasagah Canoe (with Indians) who came and saw me and told for News, that there was an Army passed Cataracque, in order to build a Fort where Joncaire was, and to run off the Shawanahs, Chanundadies, and Twig-Twee Indians (who live at Kyahagah on the Drafts of Ohio & Ohio) and with whom the Philadelphians trade, and to drive them from thence, and that there was a good many Indians to go with said army. I told them as they had entered into an Alliance with the Five Nations (which place belonged to them) and that many of the five Nations lived there as well as the other Nations aforesaid. I hoped the would join the five Nations in defence of said Indians, and opposed the views of the French, which was to make slaves of all Indians. Adrawanah being here I sent for him, and made them repeat the News to him, who seemed much troubled with it. I did all I could to shew the Frenches Views in all their doings, and to shew that they treated the five Nations and all other Indians, as their Slaves, who had neither liberty nor property

Schanahary (an other Cheif of the Cahugahs) coming here the next day I was at the same pains with him

May 5th This day came here a Seneca Indian who informed me that the French (who are building a Fort near the Twig Twees) hearing of three Philadelphia Traders, that were going to trade with that Nation, sent for them to smoke a Pipe in a friendly manner, which they accepted of, and as soon as they came took everything from them, and put the men in Irons. On hearing this I sent for Schanahary, and told him the News, he said they had heard it, and had sent to know the certainty of it, and said the Five Nations were determined to assist and defend all those Indians who live at Cayahagah, and to protect the English that traded there—

I told all our Indians that were here, that when I came here first. I had opposed their going to Canada, to receive Gifts and presents from thence for that was selling their Liberty and property and they might now see come to pass. For the Governor of Canada looked on what was theirs as his own and did what he pleased without their leave or consent as they saw by the Fort built at the carrying place above Niagara, and that they were about to build

where Joncaire is, which place I was well informed they had given or sold to the Governor of Philadelphia, and whether they had done that or not (as it was theirs) I hoped they would allow no Fort to be built there but would all join & defend the Philadelphia Traders—The Five Nations & others who lived on Ohio, or any of the Rivers terminating therein when the English had any commerce

JOHN LINDESAY

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR HAMILTON TO GOVERNOR CLINTON.

PHILADELPHIA May 15. 1751.

SIR: I deferred answering your Excellencys Letter of 13th April, till I could certainly inform you what Part this Province would Act with regard to the Treaty to be held at Albany in the next month; and I am now extremely mortified at being obliged to acquaint you, that contrary to my expectations, our Assembly has altogether declined having any thing to do in that treaty; as you will see by the Copy of their message inclosed

Although from the religious principles of a great majority of the House I never expected they would enter into any offensive Measures to protect the Indians against the French; yet I made not the least doubt, but that in order to shew them countenance, and to secure their good will; they would at least have contributed a very handsome Present to be delivered with Yours and those of the other Governments, which would have made the whole appear more considerable and better worth their acceptance. This I did not fail to press upon the Principal Members in repeated conferences both before and during the time of their last sitting, tho' without effect, so that whatever may be the consequence of our not acting with the spirit & resolution the present state of Indian affairs seems to require, and the circumstance of this Province very well enabled us to do, I cannot reproach myself with having omitted any thing in my Power that would have contributed to so good a purpose

Upon the death of Canassatego and some other of the principal Sachims of the six Nations who were our very good friends—We have thought it necessary to send to the Council at Onondago, a message of condolence with a small present of one hundred pounds value, and as there will be soon an opportunity of meeting that council together at Albany: I am to request of Your Excellency that Mr Weiser our Province Interpreter may have your permition to deliver the same at that place whereby much time & trouble will be saved to this Government

before me, for the better regulating the Nightly Watch within the City of Philadelphia, and for enlightening the Streets, Lanes, and Allies, of the said City, and for raising of Money on the Inhabitants of the said City for defraying the necessary Expences thereof. But as the Provisions in the Bill, which relate to the Properties, and may essentially affect the Liberties of the Citizens, and other Inhabitants of the Province resorting to the City, are such as we have yet had no experience of, and seem in many Instances to deviate from the Laws of our mother Country, in the like Cases, I have resolved, in order to give it mature and deliberate Consideration, to advise until your Meeting after next Adjournment.

February 7th. 1750.

James Hamilton.

John Morris alias John Morrison Labourer, Elizabeth Robinson Spinster, Francis McCoy Taylor, and John Crow Labourer all of the City of Philadelphia, having been tried for Burglary at the Supream Court held at Philadelphia the twenty eighth, twenty ninth and thirtieth Days of January last and convicted and condemned to death the Record of their Conviction and Sentence was read. The Governor signified to the Council that the Judges in their Report to him had represented all of them as really guilty of the Facts with which they were charged, and that they were attended with many aggravating Circumstances, but that Crow in Extenuation of his Guilt had early made a Confession of the Fact, and informed of the Persons concerned with him, who were apprehended on Crows Information, and if Mercy was to be extended, he was the least guilty. after duly considering the horrid Nature of the Crimes, a Warrant was ordered to be made for the Execution of Morrison, Robinson and McCoy, and a Reprieve for John Crow.

A Bill Entitled An act for erecting Houses of Correction and Work houses in the Counties of Lancaster, York and Cumberland, within this Province was presented to the Governor by the Assembly for his Concurrence. And was read the first time, and in part considered.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Wednesday the sixth of February 1750.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Robert Strettell, Joseph Turner, William Logan — Esquires
Samuel Hasel, Benjamin Shoemaker, Thomas Hopkinson, Richard Peters — Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor on the second Instant received the following Message from the Assembly in answer to his relating to the Watch Bill, whereupon he had resumed the Consideration thereof. and after consulting the Attorney General, and such of the Council as were Members of the City Corporation, he had drawn up a Set of Amendments, which were read, and after long consideration and some alterations, the Amendments were agreed to, and the Secretary was ordered to return the Bill with those Amendments.

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

May it please the Governor

We have read and considered the Governors Message upon our Bill, for regulating the Nightly Watch &c: and are much pleased to find how sensible he is "of the many "Dangers the Inhabitants of the City of Philadelphia are exposed to by the "Darkness of their Streets, "and the want of a well regulated Watch in the Night, of the earnest Desires of the Inhabitants, "and of our good Intentions to provide for their speedy Relief:" This induces us to hope the Governor, upon mature Consideration, will be pleased to pass our Bill; as on our Parts, we have carefully endeavoured to

Pennsylvania. 1750.

to answer the Desires of the Inhabitants of this City, as nearly as might be, in Conformity with the Prayers of their Petition, upon which the Bill was originally founded. But we are deeply affected with the Apprehensions the Governor entertains, "That the Provisions in the Bill which relate to the Properties, and may essentially affect the Liberties of the Inhabitants of the Province, resorting to the City, are such as we have had no experience of, and seem in many Instances to deviate from the Laws of our Mother Country in the like Cases." In forming of this Bill, we have constantly had in view, the Method prescribed by our Laws for raising County Rates and Levies, because, on long experience, we have found them to give general Satisfaction to the Inhabitants of this Province, and effectual in discharging the Publick Debts with Honour: We are not sensible of any material Difference in this Bill, unless the Inhabitants of the City of Philadelphia, by any misfortunes peculiar to themselves, must be precluded from that Benefit which every other Part of the Province has a Right to. And should We in any Instance, "seem to deviate from the Laws of our Mother Country in like Cases," we hope, on examination, they will appear neither to contradict nor vary from them, farther than our Charters and our Laws warrant us, in order to make them more suitable to the Circumstances of this Province.

The Necessity of an immediate Provision for securing the Inhabitants of this City from their Fears, and the great Dangers they are liable to, continually, for want of a sufficient and regular Watch in the night, call upon Us to become earnest Sollicitors with the Governor, that he would be pleased to give the Bill now lying before him all the Dispatch the Circumstances of these unhappy times require.

Signed by Order of the House
Isaac Norris, Speaker

P. February 1750.

The Bill for erecting Houses of Correction, and Workhouses, in the Counties of Lancaster, York and Cumberland, within this Province, was read amended, and the Bill ordered to be returned to the House with the amendments.

The Governor having received by the last Post a Letter from Governor Clinton, with some Papers relating to Indian affairs, the same were read and sent to the Assembly, and are as follows.

A Letter from Governor Clinton to Governor Hamilton.

S^r

Your Favour of 22^d instant I have received, and am glad that you are of the same opinion with me, in relation to Indian affairs.

I send You a Copy of an Inscription, on a leaden Plate, stolen from Jean Cour, some months sinca in the Seneca's Country, as he was going to the River Ohio, which plainly demonstrates the French Scheme by the exorbitant Claims therein mentioned, also a Copy of a Cajuga Sachims Speech to Coll Johnson, with his Reply on the Subject matter of the Plate, which I hope will come time enough to communicate to your Assembly, I am with very great Regard

S^r

Fort George
29th January 1750

Your Honours most obedient
and very humble Servant
G. Clinton

The Speech of a Cajuga Sachim to Coll Johnson with his Reply.

Mount Johnson December 4. 1750

At the desire of the Five Nations I called the Chiefs of the Mohawks to my House where Scanaghiradeya a Cajuga Sachim after the usual Compliments spoke to me as follows.

Brother Corlear, & Warraghiyagee.

I am sent here by the Five Nations (with a Piece of Writing which the Senecas our Brethren got by some Artifice from Jean Cour,) to you earnestly beseeching you will let us know what it means, and

as

as we put all our Confidence in you our Brother, hope you will explain it ingeniously to us. delivered a leaden Square Plate.

A Belt of Wampum.

Brother I am ordered further to acquaint You, that Jean Cour the French Interpreter, when on his Journey (this last Summer) to Ohio River, spoke thus to the Five Nations, & Others in our Alliance.

Children, your Father (meaning the French Governor) having out of a tender Regard for you, considered the great Difficulties you labour under, by carrying your Goods, Canoes &c. over the great Carrying Place of Niagara, has desired me to acquaint You, that in order to ease you all of so much trouble for the future, he is resolved to build a House at the other End of said Carrying Place, which he will furnish with all necessaries requisite for your Use. A Belt of Wampum.

Brother, Jean Cour also told Us that he was now on his Way to Ohio River, where he intended to stay three Years, & desired some of Us to accompany him thither; which we refused; whereupon he answered he was much surprized, at our not consenting to go with him, inasmuch as it was for our Interest, & ease, he was sent thither, to build a House there also, at the Carrying Place between said River Ohio & Lake Erie, where all the Western Indians should be supplied with whatever Goods they may have occasion for, & not be at the trouble & loss of time of going so far to market as usual (meaning Oswego) after this, he desired to know our opinion of the affair & begged our Consent to build in said Places. he gave us a large Belt of Wampum thereon desiring our Answer, which we told him we would take some time to consider of.

Brother, we have nothing further to add at present, but to acquaint you that your Brethren the Senecas have made two new Sachems, which they desired I would let you know, and their titles, so that when you may have occasion to speak to them, you should not be at a Loss therein, they are called Onoghcaritawey and Saganjona two very good men, whom we hope may be agreeable to you.

A String of Wampum.

Brethren of the Five Nations,

I am always glad to see you here at my House, but never more so than at this Juncture, as it puts it in my Power now to be of the greatest Service to you, and of convincing you, that the Confidence you have always reposed in me, was justly grounded, and will ever prove the greatest Advantage to you, while you continue to behave as you should, and follow your Brother the Governors Advice, and not suffer yourselves to be wheedled or mislead by the fine Speeches of your greatest Enemy the French, who have not, nor ever had your Welfare at heart, as you are sensible of, from their many former Cruelties, and ill Treatment to your People, But their Scheme now laid against You, and Yours (at a time when they are feeding You up with fine Promises of serving you in several Shapes) is worse than all the rest as will appear by their own Writing here on this Plate. Note, I repeat here the Substance of said Writing, with some necessary Additions. Giving a large Belt of Wampum to confirm what I said. which Belt with the rest are to be sent thorough all the Nations, as far as Ohio River.

Brethren this is an affair of the greatest Importance to you, as nothing less than all your Lands, and best Hunting Places are aimed at, with a view of excluding you entirely from Us, and the Rest of your Brethren, vizt the Philadelphians, Virginians &c. who can always supply you with the Necessaries of Life at a much lower rate than the French ever did or could, and under whose Protection you are, and ever will be safer, and better served, in every respect than under the French. These, and a hundred other substantial Reasons I could give you, to convince You that the French are your implacable Enemys, but as I told you before, the very Instrument you now brought me, of their own Writing, is sufficient of itself to convince the World of their villainous designs. therefore I need not be at the trouble; so shall only desire that you, and all other Nations in Alliance with You. Seriously consider your own Interest, and by no means submit to the impending danger which now threatens You; the only way to prevent which is to turn Jean Cour away immediately from Ohio, and tell him that the French shall neither build there, or at the Carrying Place of Niagara, nor have a foot of Land more from You. Brethren what I now say I expect and insist upon, it be taken Notice of, and sent to the Indians at Ohio, that they may immediately know the vile Designs of the French.

A Belt of Wampum.

Brother

Pennsylvania. 1750.

Brother Corlear & Warraghiyagee

I have with great Attention and Surprise heard you repeat the Substance of that Devilish Writing which I brought You, and also with Pleasure noticed your just Remarks thereon, which really agree with my own Sentiments on it; I return you my most hearty thanks in the Name of all the Nations for your Brotherly Love and Cordial Advice, which I promise you sincerely (by this Belt of Wampum) shall be communicated immediately, and Verbatim to the five Nations by myself: and moreover shall see it forwarded from the Senecas Castle, with Belts from each of our own Nations, to the Indians at Ohio to strengthen your desire, as I am thoroughly satisfied you have our Interest at Heart.—

Wm Johnson

A true Copy Exam.d this 24th January 1750. &c
Geo Banyar D. Secry

The Inscription of the French on Leaden Plates buried at Ohio, is as follows

(XI)

LAN 1749 DV REGNE DE LOVIS XV ROY DE
FRANCE NOVS CELORON COMMANDANT DVN
DETACHEMENT ENVOIÉ PAR MONSIEVR LE M.IS
DE LA GALISSONIERE COMMANDANT GENERAL
LA NOUVELLE FRANCE POVR RETABLIRLA
TRANQVILLITÉ DANSQVELQVES VILLAGES SAUVA
DE CES CANTONS AVONS ENTERRE CETTEPLAQVE
AU COFLUENT DE LOHIO ET DETCHADAKOIN CE 29IVILLET
PRES DE LARIVIERE OYO AUTREMENT BELLE
RIVIERE POUR MONUMENT DU RENOUVELLEMENT DE
POSSESSION QUE NOUS AVONS PRIS DE LA DITTE
RIVIERE OYO ET DE TOUTES CELLES QUI Y
TOMBENT ET DE TOUTES LESTERRES DES DEVX
CÔTÉS JVSQVE AVX SOVRCES DES DITTES RIVIERES
AINSI QVÉN ONT JOVY OV DV JOVIR LES
PRECEDENTS ROIS DE FRANCE ET QVILS SY
SONT MAINTENVS PAR LES ARMES ET PAR LES
TRAITTÉS SPECIALEMENT PAR CEVX DE RISWICK
D'VTRECHT ET DAIX-LA CHAPELLE.,

A Message was sent to the Governor by the House in Answer to his delivered with the Bill for regulating the Probate of Wills, which follows in these Words.

A Message

Pennsylvania. 1750.

Brother Corlear & Warraghiyagee

I have with great Attention and Surprise heard you repeat the Substance of that ... Devilish Writing which I brought You, and also with Pleasure noticed your just Remarks thereon, which really agree with my own Sentiments on it; I return you my most hearty thanks in the Name of all the Nations for your Brotherly Love and Cordial Advice, which I promise you sincerely (by this Belt of Wampum) shall be communicated immediately, and Verbatim to the Five Nations by myself: and moreover shall see it forwarded from the Seneca's Castle, with Belts from each of our own Nations, to the Indians at Ohio to strengthen your desire, as I am thoroughly satisfied you have our Interest at Heart.—

Wm: Johnson

A true Copy Exam^d this 24th January 1750.
Geo Banyar D Secry

The Inscription on the Leaden Plates buried at Ohio, is as follows

LAN 1749.
FRANCE
DE L'ACHI
DE LA GR
LA NOUV
TRANQV
DE CES C
AU CONFL
PRES DE
RIVIERE
POSSESSI
RIVIERE
TOMBEN
CÔTÉS J
AINSI QV
PRECEDI

ES.
ET.
DE

In the year 1749, during the reign of Louis XV. King of France, We Céloron, commander of a detachment sent by the Marquis de la Galissoniere, commander in Chief of New France, to restore tranquillity in some savage villages of these districts, have buried this plate at the confluence of the Ohio and Tchadakoin this 29th of July, near the river Ohio, alias Beautiful River (Belle rivière) as a monument of our having retaken possession of the said river Ohio and of those that fall into the same and of all their lands on both sides, as far as the sources of the said rivers, as well as of those of which the preceding kings of France have enjoyed possession, partly by force of arms, partly by treaties, especially by those of Ryswick, Utrecht and Aix-la-Chapelle &c. ——

The above is a translation of an inscription in French on a leaden plate, which was buried at the Mouth of the Ohio &c

SONT MAINTENVS PAR LES ARMES ET PAR LES TRAITTÉS SPECIALEMENT PAR CEVX DE RISWICK D'VTRECHT ET DAIX-LA CHAPELLE.,

A Message was sent to the Governor by the House in answer to his delivered with .... the Bill for regulating the Probate of Wills, which follows in these Words.

A Message

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

May it please the Governor

The Manner in which the Bill for regulating the Probate of Wills, was recommended to the last Assembly, "as a Bill proper to be considered at a time of more "leisure, when the House could give it all the Attention an affair of such Importance required." induced Us to hope that at this time, when we have all the Leisure and Willingness necessary to finish this Bill, the Governor would have "proposed such Clauses to be added, or have altered "it so as to avoid any Inconveniencies, which he might apprehend would arise from the Bill as "it stood, and not incur others". But if the Governor supposes the Reasons he has been pleased to send us, are decisive, we beg Leave to declare our Sentiments, upon such of them as relate to the Powers of the Register General or his Deputies, with such Justices as he may call to his Assistance, by Vertue of our Acts of Assembly, to judge of the Validity of Last Wills made concerning Lands only, or such Wills as concern Lands and Goods, that they are, as far as regards the Lands, not only against the Words and Intention of those Acts, but directly repugnant to the Laws of England.

We hope when the Governor considers the dangerous Consequence of trusting such Powers in the Hands of the Register General and his Deputies, as in a great Degree subjects the Last Will of every Inhabitant of this Province to their Decision, he will excuse our earnest Desires to be heard upon this Occasion, as becoming us with regard to himself, and our incumbent Duty to our Constituents.

Signed by Order of the House.

February the 5th. 1750. Isaac Norris, Speaker.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Friday the 8th February 1750.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor

Thomas Lawrence, Robert Strettell, Benjamin Shoemaker, Thomas Hopkinson — Esquires

Samuel Hasell, Joseph Turner, William Logan, Richard Peters — Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The House returned the Bill for Erecting Houses of Correction, and Workhouses in the Counties of Lancaster, York and Cumberland, within this Province, with a Verbal Message, That the House having considered the Governor's amendments to that Bill, are of Opinion, that the Bill as it now stands is well suited to the Circumstances of those Counties; that the Governor's Amendments will wholly alter the Design thereof, and therefore the House adheres to the Bill. To which the Governor sent them an Answer by his Secretary, in the Words following, That he is sorry he differs in Sentiment from the House with regard to that Bill; but as the Amendments by him proposed are the Result of his Judgment, after mature Consideration of the Bill, he cannot therefore recede from them.

And at the same time the following written Message relating to the Bill for regulating the Probate of Wills was likewise delivered by the Secretary to the House

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

Gentlemen

When I sent the last Assembly the Message mentioned in Yours of the fifth Instant, altho' I saw many Inconveniencies attending the Bill for regulating the Probate of Wills then before me, yet I was unwilling to refuse my Assent to it, without that due Consideration which I shall ever have, of Matters coming from the Representatives of the Province of

Pennsylvania

John Morris, alias John Morrison, Labourer, Elizabeth Robinson, Spinster, Francis M'Coy, Taylor, and John Crow, Labourer, all of the City of Philadelphia, having been tried for Burglary at the Supreme Court held at Philadelphia the twenty-eighth, Twenty-ninth, and thirtieth Days of January last, and convicted and condemned to death, the Record of their Conviction and Sentence was read. The Governor signified to the Council that the Judges in their Report to him had represented all of them as really guilty of the Facts with which they were charged, and that they were attended with many aggravating Circumstances, but that Crow, in Extenuation of his Guilt, had early made a Confession of the Fact, and informed of the Persons concerned with him, who were apprehended on Crow's Information, and if Mercy was to be extended he was the least guilty. After duly considering the horrid nature of the Crime, a warrant was ordered to be made for the Execution of Morrison, Robinson, and M'Coy, and a Reprieve for John Crow.

A Bill Entitled "An Act for erecting Houses of Correction and Workhouses in the Counties of Lancaster, York, and Cumberland, within this Province," was presented to the Governor by the Assembly for his concurrence, and was read the first time and in part considered.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Wednesday the sixth of February, 1750.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence,	Samuel Hassell,	Esquires.
Robert Strettell,	Benjamin Shoemaker,	
Joseph Turner,	Thomas Hopkinson,	
William Logan,	Richard Peters.	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor on the second Instant received the following Message from the Assembly in answer to his relating to the Watch Bill, whereupon he had resumed the consideration thereof, and after consulting the Attorney General and such of the council as were members of the City Corporation, he had drawn up a Set of amendments which were read, and after long consideration and some alterations the amendments were agreed to and the Secretary was ordered to return the Bill with those amendments.

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

"May it please the Governor:

"We have read and considered the Governor's Message upon our Bill for regulating the Nightly Watch, &ca., and are much pleased

to find how sensible he is 'of the many Dangers the Inhabitants of the City of Philadelphia are exposed to by the Darkness of their Streets and the want of a well-regulated watch in the Night; of the earnest Desires of the Inhabitants, and of our good Intentions to provide for their speedy Relief.' This induces us to hope the Governor, upon mature Consideration, will be pleased to pass our Bill, as on our Parts we have carefully endeavoured to answer the Desires of the Inhabitants of this City as nearly as might be in conformity with the Prayers of their Petition, upon which the Bill was originally founded. But we are deeply affected with the apprehensions the Governor entertains, 'That the Provisions in the Bill which relate to the Properties, and may essentially affect the Liberties of the Inhabitants of the Province resorting to the city, are such as we have had no experience of, and seem in many Instances to deviate from the Laws of our Mother Country in the like cases.' In forming of this Bill we have constantly had in view the Method prescribed by our Laws for raising County Rates and Levies, because on long experience we have found them to give general Satisfaction to the Inhabitants of this Province, and effectual in discharging the Publick Debts with Honour. We are not sensible of any material Difference in this Bill unless the Inhabitants of the city of Philadelphia, by any misfortunes peculiar to themselves, must be precluded from that Benefit which every other Part of the Province has a Right to; And should we in any instance 'seem to deviate from the Laws of our Mother Country in like cases,' we hope, on examination, they will appear neither to contradict nor vary from them farther than our Charters and our Laws warrant us in order to make them more suitable to the circumstances of this Province.

"The Necessity of an immediate Provision for securing the Inhabitants of this city from their Fears and the great Dangers they are liable to continually for want of a sufficient and regular Watch in the Night, call upon us to become earnest sollicitors with the Governor that he would be pleased to give the Bill now lying before him all the Dispatch the circumstances of these unhappy times require.

"Signed by order of the House,

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"2d February, 1750."

The Bill for erecting Houses of Correction and work-houses in the Counties of Lancaster, York, and Cumberland, within this Province, was read, amended, and the Bill ordered to be returned to the House with the amendments.

The Governor having received by the last Post a Letter from Governor Clinton, with some Papers relating to Indian Affairs, the same were read and sent to the Assembly and are as follows:

A Letter from Governor Clinton to Governor Hamilton.

"S^{r}:

"Your Favour of the 22d instant I have received, and am glad that you are of the same opinion with me in relation to Indian Affairs.

"I send you a copy of an Inscription on a leaden Plate stolen from Jean Cœur some months since in the Seneca's Country, as he was going to the River Ohio, which plainly demonstrates the French Scheme by the exorbitant claims therein mentioned; also a copy of a Cajuga Sachim's Speech to Col^{o} Johnson, with his Reply, on the subject matter of the Plate, which I hope will come time enough to communicate to your Assembly.

"I am with very great Regard, S^{r}

"Your Honour's most obedient and very humble Servant,

"G. CLINTON.

"FORT GEORGE, 29th January, 1750."

The Speech of a Cajuga Sachim to Col. Johnson, with his Reply.

"MOUNT JOHNSON, December 4th, 1750.

"At the desire of the Five Nations, I called the Chiefs of the Mohawks to my House where Scanaghradeya, a Cajuga Sachim, after the usual compliments, spoke to me as follows:

"'*Brother Corlear & Warraghiyagee:*

"'I am sent here by the Five Nations (with a Piece of writing which the Senecas our Brethren got by some Artifice from Jean Cour) to you, Earnestly beseeching you will let us know what it means, and as we put all our Confidence in you or Brother, hope you will explain it ingeniously to us.'

"Deliver'd a leaden Square Plate.

"A Belt of Wampum.

"'*Brother*—I am ordered further to acquaint you that Jean Cour, the French Interpreter, when on his Journey (this last summer) to Ohio River, Spoke thus to the Five Nations & others in our Alliance.

"'*Children*—Your Father (meaning the French Governor) having out of a tender Regard for you considered the great Difficulties you labour under by carrying your Goods, Canoes, &$^{ca.}$ over the great carrying Place of Niagara, has desired me to acquaint you that in order to ease you all of so much trouble for the future he is resolved to build a House at the other end of said carrying Place, which he will furnish with all necessaries requisite for your use.'

"A Belt of Wampum.

"'*Brother*—Jean Cour also told us that he was now on his way to Ohio River, where he intended to stay three years & desired some of Us to accompany him thither, which we refused, whereupon he answered he was much surprised at our not consenting to go with him, inasmuch as it was for our Interest & ease he was sent thither to build a House there, also at the carrying Place between said River *Ohio and Lake Erie*, where all the Western Indians should be supplied with whatever Goods they may have occasion for, & not be at the trouble & loss of time of going so far to Market as usual, (meaning Oswego) after this; he desired to know our opinion of the Affair & begged our Consent to build in said Places; he gave us a large Belt of Wampum thereon desiring our answer, which we told him we would take some time to consider of.

"'*Brother*—We have nothing further to add at present but to acquaint you that your Brethren the Senecas have made two new Sachims, which they desired I would let you know, and their titles, so that when you may have occasion to speak to them you should be at a Loss therein; they are called O'nogh'caritawey and Sagangiona, two very good men, whom we hope may be agreeable to you.'

"A String of Wampum.

"'Brethren of the Five Nations:

"'I am always glad to see you here at my House, but never more so than at this Juncture, as it puts it in my Power now to be of the greatest Service to you and of convincing you that the Confidence you have always reposed in me was justly grounded, and will ever prove the greatest advantage to you while you continue to behave as you should, and follow your Brother the Governor's advice and not suffer yourselves to be wheedled or mislead by the fine Speeches of your greatest Enemy the French, who have not nor ever had your welfare at heart, as you are sensible of from their many former Cruelties and ill Treatment to your People. But their Scheme now laid against you and yours (at a time when they are feeding you up with fine Promises of serving you in several Shapes) is worse than all the rest, as will appear by their own writing here on this Plate. *Note.*—I repeat here the Substance of said writing with some necessary additions. *Giving a large Belt of Wampum* to confirm what I said, which Belt with the rest are to sent through all the nations as far as Ohio River.

"'Brethren—This is an affair of the greatest Importance to you, as nothing less than all your Lands and best Hunting Places are aimed at, with a view of secluding You entirely from Us and the Rest of your Brethren, viz., the Philadelphians, Virginians, &c., who can always supply You with the necessaries of Life at a much lower rate than the French ever did or could, and under whose Protection you are and ever will be safer and better served in every respect than under the French. These and a hundred other substantial Reasons I could give you to convince you that the French

are your implacable Enemys; but as I told you before the very Instrument you now brought me of their own writing is sufficient of itself to convince the world of their villainous designs, therefore I need not be at the trouble, so shall only desire that you and all other Nations in Alliance with you Seriously consider your own Interest, and by no means submit to the impending danger which now threatens You, the only way to prevent which is to turn Jean Cour away immediately from Ohio and tell him that the French shall neither build there or at the carrying Place of Niagara, nor have a foot of Land more from You. Brethren: what I now say I expect and insist upon it be taken Notice of and sent to the Indians at Ohio that they may immediately know the vile Designs of the French.'

"A Belt of Wampum.

"'Brother Corlear & Warraghiyagee:

"'I have with great attention and Surprise heard you repeat the Substance of that Devilish writing which I brought You, and also with Pleasure noticed Your just Remarks thereon, which really agree with my own Sentiments on it. I return You my most hearty thanks in the name of all the nations for Your Brotherly Love and Cordial advice, which I promise you sincerely (by this Belt of Wampum) shall be communicated immediately and Verbatim to the Five Nations by myself, and moreover shall see it forwarded from the Seneca's Castle with Belts from each of our own Nations to the Indians at Ohio to strengthen Your desire, as I am thoroughly satisfied you have our Interest at Heart.

"WM. JOHNSON.

"A true Copy, Exam^{d} this 24th January, 1750.

"GEO. BANYAR, D. SECRY."

The Inscription of the French on Leaden Plates, buried at Ohio, is as follows:

"IN THE YEAR 1749, DURING THE REIGN OF LOUIS XV., KING OF FRANCE, W. E. CELORON, COMMANDER OF A DETACHMENT SENT BY THE MARQUIS DE LAGALISSONIERE, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF NEW FRANCE, TO RESTORE TRANQUILLITY IN SOME SAVAGE VILLAGES OF THESE DISTRICTS, HAVE BURIED THIS PLATE AT THE CONFLUENCE OF THE OHIO AND TCHA-DA-KOIN, THIS 29TH OF JULY, NEAR THE RIVER OHIO, ALIAS 'BEAUTIFUL RIVER' (BELLE RIVIERE), AS A MONUMENT OF OUR HAVING RE-TAKEN POSSESSION OF THE SAID RIVER OHIO AND OF THOSE THAT FALL INTO THE SAME, AND OF ALL THE LANDS ON BOTH SIDES AS FAR AS THE SOURCES OF THE SAID RIVERS, AS WELL AS OF THOSE OF WHICH THE PRE-

CEDING KINGS OF FRANCE HAVE ENJOYED POSSESSION, PARTLY BY FORCE OF ARMS, PARTLY BY TREATIES, ESPECIALLY BY THOSE OF RISWICK, UTRECHT, AND AIX-LA-CHAPELLE."

The above is a translation of an inscription in French on a leaden plate which was buried at the mouth of the Ohio, &c.

A Message was sent to the Governor by the House in answer to his delivered with the Bill for regulating the Probate of Wills, which follows in these words:

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

"May it please the Governor:

"The Manner in which the Bill for regulating the Probate of Wills was recommended to the last Assembly, 'as a Bill proper to be considered at a time of more leisure, when the House could give it all the Attention an Affair of such Importance required,' induced us to hope that at this time, when we have all the Leisure and Willingness necessary to finish this Bill, the Governor would have 'proposed such Clauses to be added or have altered it so as to avoid any Inconveniences which he might apprehend would arise from the Bill as it stood, and not incur others;' But if the Governor supposes the Reasons he has been pleased to send us are decisive, we beg Leave to declare our Sentiments upon such of them as relate to the Powers of the Register General or his Deputies, with such Justices as he may call to his Assistance by Vertue of our Acts of Assembly, to judge of the validity of Last Wills made concerning Lands only, or such wills as concern Lands and Goods, that they are, so far as regards the Lands, not only against the words and Intention of those Acts, but directly repugnant to the Laws of England.

"We hope when the Governor considers the dangerous Consequence of trusting such Powers in the Hands of the Register General and his Deputies, as in a great Degree subjects the Last Will of every Inhabitant of this Province to their Decision, he will excuse our earnest Desires to be heard upon this Occasion, as becoming us with regard to himself and our incumbent Duty to our Constituents.

"Signed by Order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"February the 5th, 1750."

Boston April 1. 1751 192.

Sir

His Honor Lieut. Governor having directed me to open any publick Letter that may come hither during his absence, I take an opportunity by this post to return answer to mine of the 29th ult. & his Honor taking out of Town I have opened your Excellency's Letter to him by this post. By which you will perceive you have received no answer to the Subject Matter of your other Letter wherein refer to. I therefore take the liberty to send your Excellency the inclosed Report & Vote of both Houses thereon referring the proposed Salt Act with Sir Thomas: & to acquaint you that Lieut. Governor Phips will send a Copy of the same Act by the Post next after the passing it: His Letter accompanying it being written the Letter was in my office, how it came to miscarry or be delayed I am not able to say. But to prevent any Inconveniency by delay I shall inclose a Copy of the Letter I am with great Respect

Sir

Your Excy's most humble &
most obedient Servt.

X Our Gen. Court is now sitting & the passages will not rise till the 15th inst.

His Excy the Hon.ble George Clinton Esq.

Sir Boston April 2. 1751 132a

Sir

I am glad I had the opportunity yesterday to send your Excy a Copy of Lieut. Governor Phips's Letter. I am also desired to acquaint your Excy that my Deputy who is likewise Deputy Post Master thro' forgetfulness & Multiplicity of Business had neglected to send it for the two preceding days. tho he was fully persuaded in his own mind that he had sent it. But this Morning, my Son searching for other Papers in my office accidentally found this original Letter which I now send: I doubt not but your Excellency's Goodness will forgive this great & inexcusable Neglect & the Loss of the Postage thereof. Your Excellency's Candour & the extraordinary Parsimony of our General Assembly in the Maintainance of their Officers will excuse my Deputy for not taking my pay for the other Letters: I have delivered your Excy's Letter to Mr Livingston & acquainted him with the whole Affair: who is much concerned that the Neglect happened in a Matter committed to his Care; & is concerned in any Disappointment you may have received thereby or any Damage that may accrue to the Province or to yourself in consequence thereof. — I am with great Respect Sir Your Excy's most faithful & most obedt. Servt. J Willard

His Excy the Hon.ble Geo Clinton Esq.

From Dr. John Mitchell

LONDON. Ap^{l} 5. 1751

Dr Sir

It is with the greatest regret that I have not been able to satisfy your desire, nor gratify my own inclinations in writing to you so often as I would willingly have done, especially upon the curious & interesting Subjects with which you are so kind as to afford me so much Entertainment. the cause of my backwardness in this respect you may be sure is owing to somewhat that cannot be avoided. Since my last to you I have taken a long journey over England & the greatest part of Scotland with his Grace the Duke of Argyll, & have been since allmost constantly or very frequently in the Country, for the recovery of my health, which I find to be so much impaired & hurt by speculations & study, that I dare no longer allow myself the least indulgence that way. This you may assure yourself is the only cause why I have not been able to consider & answer the several curious things in literature that you have been pleased to acquaint me of.

When I received your ingenious & particular account of the state of your Province & the disturbances in it, I was in the Highlands of Scotland with the Duke of Argyll, & could then only drop it in discourse to him, but as soon as I came to town, I laid it before one of the Lords of Trade & Plantations, to whom I have the honour to be pretty well known, and indeed gave it to him, as he assured me some such account was then much wanted both for information about the public affairs that were then before them and for your credit & Interest in particular, as well as that of your Governor & all your friends, which had been very much misrepresented here, as I doubt not but you have been sufficiently & better informed of. This letter, as it contained the best account of that matter that their Lordships had then seen, had its due weight with them, as I was well assured. This I then informed you of but am sorry to

see by your making no mention of it in your subsequent letters to me, that you seem not to have received mine. But this affair I hope is brought to as happy a conclusion here, as I understand with a great deal of pleasure that it has been with you, and I hope to your satisfaction & benefit. The only objection that seems to be now made to the measures in your government is the Laws that have been passed to the prejudice, as is suspected, of the Prerogative of the Crown.

At the same time I wrote you some account of what was doing about adjusting the Limits of our Colonies with the French, which is still upon the Carpet. I undertook to give some account of that matter, especially what was said of it by the Historians & Geographers, of whom there are none I beleive but what I have consulted about it. By then it appears very plainly to me, that the French settlements at Crown Point & Niagara are manifest encroachments upon the british Dominions, which however they seem to have secured by a long & uninterrupted as well as quiet possession, which I am afraid your people have been somewhat to blame for. Could not you have demolished Joncaire's house at Niagara as well as Capt. Schuyler did the fort that they endeavoured to erect at Onondaga in or about the year 1718, and might not you have drove them from Crown Point, as well as the people of New England did from the mouth of the Otter-kill, on the other side of the Lake, where it is said they first settled. These are matters you know very well of general & great concern, which every one that has any regard for the Public welfare interest themselves in, and I have endeavoured with others to give what account I could of them from the relations of the Historians Geographers & Travellers, or any other authorities that could be procured. But as these want the sanction of public authority they cannot be supposed to have that due weight especially with our adversaries that their justness seem to give them. If you have any proofs & authorities for those things you

will not only oblige me very much with them, but do a signal service to the public, for which I only intend them. I have desired them allready & long ago to apply to you about them, as the only capable person to give them satisfaction that I knew of, and at the same time to get all the public Records of Indian affairs in New York, w^h^ I understand has been done. What seems to be wanting is

1. The proofs & authorities that Lake Champlain & the Country about it was the original seat & Inheritance of the five Nations.

2. When & upon what mission they removed from thence.

3. Where are they now settled, and how nigh to Lake Champlain.

4. What use, property or other claim have they had to this country since they abandoned it.

5. In some late accounts of the French I find mention made of a considerable town & settlement of the Mohawks on the north-east of Lake Champlain, upon the frontiers of New-England, called Neranzonai. Where is this place, who does it belong to, and have the five Nations any other property or Possession &c. there or thereabouts or to the northward of their settlements on the Mohawks River?

6. Did Sarahtoga belong to the five Nations or to the Scachcooks independent of them, and what may be supposed to be the extent & Limits of that possession? which is the great part of our claim.

7. At what time did the French take possession of Crown Point, and upon what occasion, and how far did the grants & possessions of the English & the French then extend.

8. What Possessions or other claims have the five Nations at or about Catarackui & on the north of Lake Ontario, or on the River Catarackui, and have the French ever had the forts of Catarackui & Teughsagrondie fully acknowledged to them either by the English or Indians.

These are some indigested thoughts that occurr to me, at this present writing, in the hurry I am obliged to be in, about matters that deserve some more particular & thorough consideration, which if you can give me any particular accounts of you will oblige me more than by any thing. You must know, that the chief thing hitherto done in these affairs has been about Nova Scotia, which has not yet been decided, and I beleive the consideration of the Limits of your Colony, w^{h} I take to be of much more consequence, will soon come to be discussed. If you can give any particular accounts of that matter, as I understand you have allready to Governor Shirley, they shall be laid before the board of Trade, and those in particular who have the management of these affairs, which may be of the greatest service to the Public, and I shall not be wanting in my duty to represent them as much as I can in your favour.

We have been much alarmed here, by some accounts from the President[1] of Virginia, about the entire defection of two of the five Nations, which was apprehended would be followed by an entire revolt of the whole. But I am glad to hear that your Governor has concerted measures in such a manner, that they will in all probability prevent these designs & intrigues of our Enemies, as it is to be hoped your intended Congress with the Indians at Albany will effectually do. This proceeding I do assure you was highly approved of & much commended by the Lords of Trade & Plantations from whom I had an account of it, and I wish you all Success in it. You ought in my humble opinion by all means to endeavour to dispossess the French at Niagara, or otherwise to prevent that constant correspondance & intercourse that is between them & our Indians there, at a place where I understand they have but very few or none of the English ever among them.

These are some few Random thoughts that I have been obliged to set down in a hurry, & only upon a few hours leisure. Dr. Colqhune by whom I wrote this tells

[1] Thomas Lee, President of the Council of Virginia.

me that he is to go to day, and I am obliged immediately to go to the Country, so that I have no time to give you any farther accounts of any thing, particularly of your philosophical papers, which I must defer the consideration of to another opportunity. Your account of the virtues of the Phytolaccæ is now before me, & I shall take care to make an abstract of it for our Philosophical Transactions. I have many more things to say to you, especially about the affairs above mentioned, as you may readily conclude from the importance & perplexity of the Subject, but as you are so well acquainted w^{t} it, I must leave them to your own consideration, to whom I know verbum sat est

from

Your most obliged humble Servt

JOHN MITCHELL

Mr Jones is now in London & goes soon to Paris, to which I promised him yesterday some Recommendations which his own merit & good behaviour as well as your desire, You may assure yourself will allwaies claim from me for any friend of Yours

J. M.

If you can conveniently send me any seeds of your forest Trees especially they will be a favour. I want your wild Hemp, Rubia or Madder w^{t} w^{h} the Indians dye red, the Tree Elm or whatever it is w^{t} w^{h} they make their Hempen Belts; what is it that they dye black with &c

---

From James Alexander

NEW YORK April 14th 1751

Dr Sir

In the Evening of the 12th I had the favour of yours of March 29th our Jersey Assembly for some years have acted as if absolute power was in their hands alone

33
11

Fort George 13 April
1751

Sir

Having communicated yesterday
to His Majesty's Council the Letters
I had received from the Several Governors
in Answer to mine of the 18 December
they advised me to put off the Meeting
at Albany to the 25th of June next; For
those Governments that seem inclinable
can not determine till their Assemblies
meet which they write me will not
be till next Month. And as there is a
probability that some of them may have
proposals to make in the Interim in
consequence of the Resolves of their
Assemblies. If your Honour have
any I should be glad to be informed
of them as soon as possible, I am Sr

Your Honours
most obedient
Humble Servant

The Honble
Oliver Wolcott

On His Majesty's Service

To

The Honourable Roger Wolcott Esqr

Governour in Chief of

the Province of Connecticut

at Windsor

Copy rec^{d}

Transcript
Aprile 15th 1759

Pennsylvania. 1750.

some measure protect the Trade and be a mark of Possession; however few the Men are they should wear an uniform Dress, that tho' very small it may look Fort like.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Tuesday the seventh of May 1751.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Thomas Hopkinson, Richard Peters } Esquires

Benjamin Shoemaker, William Logan . . . . } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A Message was last night delivered to the Governor by Two Members of Assembly, that the House was met pursuant to their Adjournment, and was ready to receive any thing the Governor might have to lay before them.

The Governor signed a Writ to the Sheriff of Philadelphia, to elect a new Representative for that County, in the Room of the late William Clymer deceased, at the Instance of the Secretary, on the Speakers Order directed to him for that Purpose.

The Governor having consulted the Attorney General, and conferred with his Council on the Hospital Bill, the following Amendments were thought proper to be made to the Bill, and sent along with it to the Assembly.

Amendments to the Bill Entitled "An Act to encourage the establishing an Hospital "for the Relief of the sick Poor of this Province and for the Reception and Cure of Lunaticks."

1. Leave out all the Words between the Word [Whom] in the fourth Line of the 3d. page, and the Word [Contribute] in the 5th & 6th Lines of the same Page, and in their Place insert [have contributed or subscribed, or shall before the first Day of the Third Month called May next, or shall after the said first Day of May.]

2. Between the Word [towards] at the End of the 6th Line of 3d. Page, and the Word [establishing] at the beginning of the 7th line of the same page insert the words [the founding and.]

3. Between the Words [Province] and [to] in the 9th line of the 3d Page insert the Words [or as many of them as shall think fit.]

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5. After the Word [Alienation] in the 2d line of 5th page insert the Word [Bequest.]

6. Leave out all the Words between the Word [Pounds] in the 19th line of 6th page and the word [shall] in 20th line of same Page, and in their Place insert these Words [so ordered by the Speaker of the Assembly afs. or any part thereof that shall hereafter be expended, as the Case may be, and of the Rents, Products and Interests of any real or personal Estates, or Sums of Money charitably given to the Use of the said Hospital, together with a List of such Donations.]

7. Between the Word [the] and the Word [Assembly] in the 4th line of 7th page, insert the Words [Governor and.]

8. Leave out the Word [new] in the 9th line of 7th Page.

9. Leave out the Word [the] in the 14th line of 7th Page, and in its Place insert these Words [Act of General]

The Governor ordered the Secretary to read the following Letter which he received last Post from Governor Clinton.

Sir

Your Favour of 29th January, I communicated (with many of the other Governors letters, in answer to mine of 18th December last) to his Majesty's Council, who advised me to put off the Meeting at Albany to the 25th of June next. For several of those Governors, that seem inclinable, cannot determine, till their Assemblies meet, which they write me, will not be till next Month. And as there is a Probability, that some of them may have Proposals to make in the Interim in Consequence of the Resolves of their Assemblies; If your Honour should have any, I should be glad to be informed as soon as possible, I am with very great Regard,

Sir

Your Honours most obedient humble Servant.

Fort George
April 13th 1751

G. Clinton

Then was read a Letter which the Governor received from Mr Weiser, in answer to one he had ordered the Secretary to write to him, to press him at the Instance of himself, and the Assembly, to go to Ohio, with the Present, which follows in these Words.

May it please the Governor,

By a Letter of the 13th of this Instant from the Secretary, I understand that the Governor with the Speaker and other Members of the House of Representatives of this Province, were unanimous that I should go to Ohio, to distribute the Presents on the 15th of May at Loggs Town, and that it was thought I could do this, and have time enough to go to Albany afterwards, with Submission, I would say that it is now impossible that the Goods can beat Loggs Town by the 15th of May, time will show that what I here say is true, and besides this the Indians cannot be sent for untill the goods are upon the Spot, because this is a hungry time with the Indians, and the few that live in Loggs Town, cannot provide for the rest that come from other towns, Should the Goods be stopped by the Way by rainy Weather, or rising of the Creeks, or by any other Accident, it would create Discontent and Ill Will by many of the Deputys to wait with an empty Belly for the Goods, of which they might after all share but little. I have experienced something of this in the Year 1748. When the Goods could not come to Loggs Town according to the time appointed. So that upon the whole I am well assured if I was to go I could not be back again before the middle or the latter end of June next, and then the Treaty at Albany would be over, and before I could reach Albany, the Indians of the Six Nations would be gone home. It is my humble opinion that my Presence at the ensuing Treaty at Albany will be of more Consequence than the Journey to Ohio. George Croghan and Andrew Mantour are every way qualified to do that Business, since there is no particular Treaty to be held at Ohio, they must act according to your Honours Instruction. If Mr Croghans Integrity is questioned, some of the Traders at Ohio might be required to be present, and see the Goods delivered Article for Article, I am satisfied there are some men on Ohio, that will not spare or favour him, as for my own Part, I believe he will do all in his Power to act according to your Honours Commands, and leave no room of Suspicion, as it is well known that the Indians on Ohio, take their measures from the Six Nations, who are to be fixed for the English at Albany. I may perhaps in Conjunction with Colo Johnson, to whom I have wrote on the Subject, be of Service to the Governor of New-York. So that upon what is said I hope your Honour will be pleased to excuse me for this time from going to Ohio. I am willing to go to Albany, if your Honour, or the Assembly, persist in their former Orders.

By Mr Parsons I had sent a Letter to Mr Peters the Secretary [but the Contents were to your Honour] about my Intention of taking my Son Sammy with me to the Mohacks Country, and to leave him there to learn the Mohack Language, under the Care of one Daniel

Pennsylvania. 1751.

Daniel Claus a young Gentleman lately come from Germany &c. and as I cannot expect an answer from the Secretary, I hope he has by this time sent the Letter to your Honour. I must therefore beg the Favour of your Honours Sentiments about the Premises mentioned in that Letter. I am.

Sir

Your most obedient
Conrad Weiser.

Heidleberg
April the 22d. 1751.

On receit of this Letter, the Governor desired Mr Croghan and Mr Montour to take upon them the Distribution of the Present, and the following ~~r r r r~~ Instructions were drawn up for the Regulation of their Conduct on that Occasion.

By the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of Newcastle, Kent and Sussex, upon Delaware.

To George Croghan Esquire and Mr Andrew Montour.

Whereas a Quantity of Goods to the Value of Seven Hundred Pounds has been provided by the Government for the several Nations of Indians at Ohio; the same is forthwith to be carried and distributed amongst them by You, I trust you will be sensible of the Importance of the Concern committed to your Care, and manage with so much Prudence and Skill, as that the Present shall have its full Force and Effect.

As soon as you arrive at Ohio, let some of the Chiefs of the Six Nations know of your Coming, let them be those that you are fully convinced are strictly attached to the English Interest, and let them know that You have a Message and a Present from the Governor of Pensylvania to the Indians on Ohio, chiefly to strengthen the Alliance of the Six Nations with the other Indians, and that they must assist the Governor of Pennsylvania, as if it were in Council together, and form a Speech to be made to three particular Nations viz the Shawonese ..... Delawares and Owendaets, and put them in mind of what was transacted, three Years ago with the Owendaets by the Six United Nations of Indians at Ohio, and the Deputies from the Government of Pennsylvania, Conrad Weiser Esquire and yourselves, which you will perceive by Mr Weiser's Journal, a Copy of which I herein indose You.—

At that time the Owendaets promised to pay a Visit to their unknown Brethren in Philadelphia, and make themselves known to them. but as they have not fulfilled their Promise, you have now brought that Present, or Part of it, which the Government of ..... Pennsylvania intended to make them on their Visit; and as the Six United Nations, and the People of Pennsylvania are one People, of one Mind and one Body, It is expected the Six Nation Brethren on Ohio should assist You, and deliver the Present in the best manner possible

As to the Delawares you must inform the said Chiefs what passed between them and Conrad Weiser at that time where you both were present, that the Delawares acquainted Conrad Weiser of their lamentable Condition for the Loss of their Chief, who was a Man well beloved by their Brethren the English, and that they the Delawares then promised to visit their Brethren in Philadelphia to consult with them about a new Chief, but that those Men who made such Promise viz. Shawanapon and Others are since dead, which makes their Case still the more deplorable, and that their Brethren in Philadelphia have sent them a Present to condole with them, and wipe off the Tears from their Eyes, and advise them to recommend such Persons to Us as well as to the Six Nations, with whom Publick Business shall be transacted, and that their Brethren in Philadelphia will look upon them so recommended as Chief or Chiefs of the Delawares, and use him or them accordingly on all Occasions; and if they cannot agree about the Affair that their Brethren of Pennsylvania, with whom the Delawares ... are one People, being come out of the same Spot of Ground, will advise or direct as Occasion may require, Application of their Brethren the Delawares being first made.

As to the Shawonese, You must acquaint the Six Nation Chiefs that upon their ..... Recommendation

RECORDS, VOL. M, PP. 116-122.

Recommendation the People of Pennsylvania are entirely reconciled with the Shawonese, and nothing now seems wanting but a more free Conversation and Correspondence between the Shawonese and Six United Nations, and therefore the Six United Nations are desird to join with this Government, in removing all Obstacles yet remaining, which can be but trifles, and that the Present to be given them is to serve for that purpose, and that from henceforth We jointly with the Six United Nations expect a more free and open Correspondence with the Shawonese.

Then say, Brethren, this that has been said to you now is the chief part of our Instructions, and your Brethren the Governor of Pennsylvania, and the old men the Counsellors ... desire you will join with them and assist in the whole, as it is chiefly intended to strengthen your Arms, who are the head of all the Indians in north America. To enforce this on your minds the Governor sends you this Belt of Wampum.

Mr Andrew Montour must make himself Master of what is abovesaid, so that he may be capable to be Speaker; but if the Six Nation Chiefs should appoint one of them to be Speaker, Care must be taken that he keep to that which was agreed upon before in Council, for it is ... known that some assuming fellows amongst them will take upon them to speak in Publick, and go so far astray that they put every thing in Confusion.

It is supposed after the Delivery of the Belt they will hold a Council, and when by their answer you perceive that they are well pleased, you are only to reserve so much of the Provincial Present, as will cloathe them that assist you, so that they may have each of them a Stroud, a Shirt, a pair of Stockings, some Powder and Lead as you will see cause, but if they should seem dissatisfied because nothing was said to them of a Present (tho' 'tis hoped they will be well pleased) that then you tell them that there was some things in reserve for them, and then you must give them a Share of the Present. When you are in Council with them you must acquaint them in proper Form, or let Mr Andrew Montour speak to them in my name as follows.

Brethren the Six Nations.

We received a Message from You by Mr Montour, imparting to us one from the Twightwees to You wherein they set forth that they are young and unexperienced, and that You are their elder Brothers, and therefore pray your advice how to behave in their new alliance, promising to follow it, and further desiring You to acquaint the English that they will ever remain faithful to them. We thank You for your Communication of this their Message, we rely on You to give them good Advice, and on them to follow it, and we repeat to you and them our Assurances to behave towards You with the greatest Friendship and Affection.

Brethren of the Six Nations

You likewise did impart to Us a Message given You for Us by the Owendaets who by you complain they are not admitted into the General Peace. how comes this to pass. Are .... they not free and independent Indians, and as such have a Right to live where they please. And as We do not infringe upon the Liberties of the Indians, so neither ought the French to do it, and if they do, it ought to be the Voice of one and all the Indians to resent and to put a Stop to such unjust Proceedings.

Brethren the Six Nations

We received another Message from You by Conajarca, requesting to be informed when the Proprietaries buy any Lands of the Six Nations, that you might receive some of the .... consideration Money Brethren We sent your Belt to the Six Nation Council at .... Onondago, being under an Engagement to treat with none but them about Lands, and they have your Belt now under Consideration.

Brethren the Twightwees

As You are an antient and renowned Nation, we were pleased when you sent your Deputies, now three Years ago, to sollicit our Alliance, nor did We hesitate to grant your Request, as it came so warmly recommended to Us by our Brethren the Six Nations, Delawares and Shawonese. At your further Request We ordered our Traders to go among you with their

Goods,

RECORDS, VOL. M, PP. 116-122.

Goods, and to sell you them at a reasonable rate, and of good sorts - We understand that in Obedience to our Commands, the Traders have visited You, and given you intire Satisfaction. By one of them Mr Hugh Crawford We received a Message from You, pressing Us to send a greater Number of Traders, and to this We returned you our answer by Mr Montour and Mr Croghan, who, we are informed, delivered it to you in one of your Towns about two months ago Mr Croghan likewise informs Us, that at the same time two other Tribes of your Nation earnestly requesting to become our Allies, he and Mr Montour did receive a Writing from You certifying such your Request and containing your Promises of Fidelity and Friendship which We have seen and approve.

Brethren the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese, Owendaets .... and Twightwees Hear what We have to say to You all in general.

I am informed by Mr Croghan that the French and some Indians in their alliance obstruct our Traders, carry away their Persons and Goods, and are guilty of many more outrageous Practices whereby the Road between Us and You is now very unsafe to .... travel in, nor can we ask any of the Traders to go any more amongst You, whilst their Lives and Effects are in such imminent Danger - How comes this to pass - Does not this proceed from the Pride and Covetousness of Onontio, whom the Indians frequently call their Father, because they do not see his ill designs - The strong Houses you gave him Leave to erect on your Lands, serves (as your Brethren the English always told You) to impoverish You and to keep your Wives and Children always naked, by keeping the English Traders at a Distance well knowing the English sell their Goods cheaper than they can afford; and I can assure you .... Onontio will never rest whilst an English Trader comes to Ohio, and indeed if You do not .. open your Eyes, he will obtain his End; the strong Houses you gave him leave to build on your Land makes him so insolent and untractable.

GIVEN under my Hand and the Lesser Seal of the said Province at Philadelphia the Twenty Fifth Day of April in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty One.

James Hamilton.

A private Instruction was added to the above in a Letter to George Croghan, expressly forbidding him to make any publick mention of building a Fort, but only desiring him to sound the Indians on this Point when by themselves in private Conversation.

The Governor further informed the Council that George Croghan had been in Town, and given him the following Intelligence, which he obliged him to put down in Writing, namely, that the French Indians had made Prisoners of three of the Traders Men, and taken their Goods, and .. by the Description given of them by the Indians they must have been his men - that it was reported that a Body of French and French Indians had determined for the Twightwee Country to .... destroy the English Traders there as soon as the Season would permit - adding of himself that if some Measures were not speedily taken to encourage the Indians to join and repel the French, the English Interest would soon come to nothing in those Parts, and if they should lose themselves .. with those Indians, the Six Nations would not long continue their Regards for the English.

Mr Croghan further related that in February last he and Andrew Montour had .... been with the Twightwees on the Big Miamis Creek a Branch of the River Ohio and that at the time they were there Two nations called the Waughwaoughtanneys and Pyankeshees two Tribes of the Twightwee Nation came into Council, and desired they might be admitted into the alliance of the English - That thereupon Mr Montour and he (though they had no Authority .... from the Governor) rather than discourage these People at so critical a time did hearken to them, and drew up an Instrument which was executed on both Sides - that he the Governor had reproved Mr Croghan for acting in publick matters without his Orders, but had however taken the Instrument from him, and being read it was ordered to be entered that it might be known hereafter what had been done.

John Peter a Delaware man present

Laughawwichs a Shawanese Man present

Whereas at an Indian Treaty held at the Twightwees Town on the Big Miamis Creek being a Branch of the River Ohio on Thursday the twenty second Instant before George Croghan and Andrew Montour Twenty Men of the Waughwaoughtanneys an Pyanteshees Two of their Indian Chiefs viz: Tahentoa Molsinoughko and Nynichoneghee Appeared in Behalf of themselves and their Nations, and prayed that as their Indian Brothers the Twightwees had been lately admitted into the Friendship and Alliance of the King of Great Britain and his Subjects, and as they are Tribes of the said Twightwees, earnestly desired to be admitted into the said Chain of Friendship and Alliance of the King of Great Britain and his Subjects, professing on their Parts to become true and faithful Friends and Allies to the English, and so for ever to continue Mishihinoughwe and Nemesqua - and all of them Nations in Friendship and Alliance with the English becoming an earnest Intercessor with the said Chiefs on their Behalfs the Prayer of the said Chiefs of the Waughwaoughtanneys and Pyanteshees was granted, a firm Treaty and Alliance of Friendship was then stipulated and agreed on between the said George Croghan and Andrew Montour in Behalf of the Governor of Pennsylvania and the said Chiefs or Deputies of the Waugh - waoughtanneys and Pyanteshees Nations, as by the Records of that Council held will more fully appear Now these Presents Witness and it is hereby declared that the said Nations of Indians called the Waughwaoughtanneys and Pyanteshees are accepted by the said George Croghan and Andrew Montour as good Friends and Allies of the English Nation and they the said Nations and the Subjects of the King of Great Britain shall for ever after be as one head and one heart and live in true Friendship as one People In consideration whereof the said Tahentoa Molsinoughko and Nynichenowen Chiefs of the said Waughwaough - tanneys and Pyanteshees Nations Do hereby in behalf of the said Nations covenant promise and declare that the several People of the said Waughwaoughtanneys and Pyanteshees Nations or any of them, shall not at any time hurt injure or defraud, or suffer to be hurt injured or defrauded any of the Subjects of the King of Great Britain either in their Persons or Estates, but shall at all times readily do Justice and perform to them all the Acts and Offices of Friendship and Good Will Item that the said Waughwaoughtanneys and Pyanteshees Nations by the Alliance aforesaid becoming entitled to the Privilege and Protection of the English Laws They shall at all times behave themselves regularly and soberly according to the Laws of the Government of Pennsylvania, whilst they live or be amongst or near the Christian Inhabetants thereof Item that none of the said Nations shall at any time be aiding assisting or abetting to or with any other Nation whether of Indians or Others that shall not at such time be in amity with the Crown of England and the said Government of Pennsylvania Item that if at any time any of the said Waughwaoughtanneys and Pyanteshees Nations by means of evil minded Persons and Sowers of Sedition should hear of any unkind or disadvantageous Reports of the English, as if they had evil Designs against any of the said Indians, in such case, such Indians shall send Notice thereof to the Governor of the aforesaid Province for the time being and shall not give Credit to the said Reports till by that means they shall be fully satisfied of the Truth thereof, and it is agreed that the English shall in such Cases do the same by them - In Testimony whereof as well the said George Croghan and Andrew Montour as the Chiefs of the Waughwaoughtanneys and Pyanteshees Nations have smoaked the Calumet Pipe made mutual Presents to each other and hereunto set their Hands and Seals the twenty second Day of February in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty and in the Twenty Fourth Year of the Reign of George the Second King of Great Britain France and Ireland Defender of the Faith &c.

Geo: Croghan (L.S.)

Signed Sealed and Delivered in the Presence of Us.

Christr. Gist
Robt. Kellener
Thomas TK Kinton his mark
John Potts

Tahentoa his mark (L.S.)
molsinoughs his mark (L.S.)
Nynichenoughee his mark (L.S.)

Andrew + his mark Montour (L.S.)

Pennsylvania. 1751.

These several Matters being taken into Consideration, it was thought proper that they should be laid before the Assembly which was accordingly done with the following Message.

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

Gentlemen

I was very well pleased with your Resolution signified to me at the Close of the last Session, to adjourn to the Beginning of this Month, in order that you might be the better enabled to consider, from such Intelligence as might then be given You, what ... Measures it might be proper for you to take, with regard to Indian affairs.

I have since received a Letter from Governor Clinton, acquainting me, that by Advice of his Council, he has postponed his Meeting the Six Nations at Albany, to the twenty fifth of .... next Month, to give the several Governors he has applied to on that Occasion, more time to consult their respective Assemblies, on an affair of so much Importance; desiring further, that if I have any Proposals to offer in Consequence of any Resolves to be made by you, that I should impart them as soon as possible; wherefore, if any such should occur that you think necessary to be settled, previous to the said Treaty, you will please to communicate them to me with all convenient Dispatch, and you may assure yourselves of my Readiness to concur with you in whatever may tend to the Interest of the Province.

Mr Croghan having been lately in Town, from Ohio, related to me the Intelligence .... contained in the Paper herewith laid before You; which for its Importance very well deserves, and I earnestly recommend to your most serious Attention. He is now returned to Ohio, in order to deliver the Provincial Present to the Indians there, about the middle of this month.

If any thing new had happened in the Countries contiguous to New York, I am perswaded Governor Clinton would have communicated it to me; but as he has been altogether silent on that head, I .... conclude there has been no alteration of affairs there since your last Session; I have therefore now only to desire You to revise the Contents of the Papers then laid before You, and to come to such ..... Resolutions thereupon, as may enable me to do what is becoming this Government.

The Six Nations, whose Example will be followed by all the other Indians, seem to be actually afraid of the French; and though their Affections are manifestly in favour of the English, yet if they find no Support from them, sufficient to dispel these Fears, it must be expected they will be obliged to quit our Interest, and depend on those who will afford them better Protection.

This is the Light in which I see Matters at present; and should you concur with me in Sentiment, I make no doubt but your Resolves will be answerable to the Exigency of Affairs.

Philadelphia
May 7th. 1751.

James Hamilton

At a Council held at Philadelphia Saturday the 11th of May 1751.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Joseph Turner, William Logan } Esquires

Benjamin Shoemaker, Thomas Hopkinson, Richard Peters } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The following Message was delivered to the Governor by two Members of Assembly.

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

May it please the Governor,

We have considered the Governors Message concerning Indian affairs, and the ... several Letters and Papers therein mentioned, with that Attention the Importance of them requires, and are very sensible of his Care and Concern to confirm and extend our Interest with our Indian Allies.

As we find there is no late Intelligence of a material Change in the State of these ....

affairs

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday the seventh of May, 1751.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Benjamin Shoemaker,
Thomas Hopkinson, William Logan, } Esqrs.
Richard Peters,

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A Message was last night delivered to the Governor by two Members of Assembly that the House was met pursuant to their Adjournment, and was ready to receive any thing the Governor might have to lay before them.

The Governor signed a Writ to the Sheriff of Philadelphia to elect a new Representative for that county in the room of the late William Clymer, deceased, at the Instance of the Secretary, on the Speaker's Order, directed to him for that Purpose.

The Governor having consulted the Attorney General and conferred with his Council on the Hospital Bill, the following Amendments were thought proper to be made to the Bill and sent along with it to the Assembly:

"Amendments to the Bill Entitled 'An Act to encourage the establishing an Hospital for the Relief of the sick Poor of this Province, and for the Reception and cure of Lunaticks.'

"1. Leave out all the Words between the word [whom] in the fourth line of the 3d page, and the Word [Contribute] in the 5th & 6th Lines of the same Page, and in their Place insert [have contributed or subscribed, or shall before the first Day of the Third Month called May next, or shall after the said first Day of May].

"2. Between the word [towards] at the End of the 6th Line of 3d Page, and the word [establishing] at the beginning of the 7th line of the same page, insert the words [the founding and].

"3. Between the words [Provine] and [to] in the 9th line of the 3d Page insert the words [or as many of them as shall think fit].

"4. Between the word [Contributors] in the 18th & 19th lines of 3d Page and the word [or] in the 19th line of same page, insert the word [met].

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"6. Leave out all the Words between the word [Pounds] in the 19th line of 6th page and the word [shall] in the 20th line of same Page, and in their Place insert these words [so order'd by the Speaker of the Assembly afs^{d} or any part thereof that shall hereafter be expended as the case may be, and of the Rents, Products,

and Interests of any real or personal Estates or Sums of Money charitably given to the use of the said Hospital, together with a List of such Donations].

"7. Between the word [the] and the word [Assembly] in the 4th line of 7th Page insert the words [Governor and].

"8. Leave out the word [New] in the 9th line of 7th Page.

"9. Leave out the word [the] in the 14th line of the 7th Page, and in its Place insert these Words [Act of General].

The Governor ordered the Secretary to read the following Letter which he received last Post from Governor Clinton:

"Sir:

"Your Favour of 29th January I communicated (with many of the other Governor's letters in answer to mine of 18th December last) to his Majesty's Council, who advised me to put off the meeting at Albany to the 25th of June next. For several of those Governors that seem inclinable cannot determine till their Assemblies meet, which they write me will not be till next Month; and as there is a Probability that some of them may have Proposals to make in the Interim, in Consequence of the Resolves of their Assemblies, If your Honour should have any I should be glad to be informed as soon as possible. I am with very great Regard,

"Sir, Your Honour's most obedient humble Servant,

"G. CLINTON.

"Fort George, April 13th, 1751."

Then was read a letter which the Governor received from Mr. Weiser in answer to one he had ordered the Secretary to write to him to press him at the Instance of himself and the Assembly to go to Ohio with the Present, which follows in these words:

"May it please the Governor—

"By a Letter of the 13th of this Instant from the Secretary, I understand that the Governor with the Speaker and other Members of the House of Representatives of this Province were unanimous that I should go to Ohio to distribute the Presents on the 15th of May at Logg's Town, and that it was thought I could do this and have time enough to go to Albany afterwards. With submission I would say that it is now impossible that the Goods can be at Logg's Town by the 15th of May. Time will show that what I here say is true; and besides this the Indians cannot be sent for untill the goods are upon the Spot, because this is a hungry time with the Indians, and the few that live in Logg's Town cannot provide for the rest that come from other towns. Should the Goods be stopped by the way by rainy weather or rising of the Creeks or by any other Accident, it would create Discontent and *Ill will* by many of the Deputies to wait with an empty Belly for the Goods of which they might after all share but little. I have experienced something of

this in the Year 1748 When the Goods could not come to Logg's Town according to the time appointed. So that upon the whole I am well assured if I was to go I could not be back again before the middle or the latter end of June next, and then the Treaty at Albany would be over; and before I could reach Albany the Indians of the Six Nations would be gone home. It is my humble Opinion that my Presence at the ensuing Treaty at Albany will be of more Consequence than the Journey to Ohio. George Croghan and Andrew Montour are every way qualified to do that Business since there is no particular Treaty to be held at Ohio; they must act according to your Honour's Instruction. If Mr. Croghan's Integrity is questioned some of the Traders at Ohio might be required to be present and see the Goods delivered Article for Article. I am satisfied there are some men on Ohio that will not spare or favour him, as for my own Part I believe he will do all in his Power to Act According to your Honour's Commands and leave no room of Suspicion, as it is well known that the Indians on Ohio take their measures from the Six Nations, who are to be fixed for the English at Albany. I may, perhaps, in Conjunction with Coll. Johnson, to whom I have wrote on the subject, be of service to the Governor of New York, so that upon what is said I hope your Honour will be pleased to excuse me for this time from going to Ohio. I am willing to go to Albany if your Honour or the Assembly persist in their former Orders.

"By Mr. Parsons I had sent a Letter to Mr. Peters, the Secretary, [but the Contents were to your Honour] about my Intention of taking my Son Sammy with me to the Mohocks Country, and to leave him there to learn the Mohock Language, under the Care of one Daniel Claus, a young Gentleman lately come from Germany, &c.; and as I cannot expect an answer from the Secretary I hope he has by this time sent the Letter to your Honour. I must, therefore, beg the favour of your Honour's Sentiments about the Premises mentioned in that Letter. I am,

"Sir, Your most obedient

"CONRAD WEISER.

"HEIDLEBERG, April the 22d, 1751."

On receit of this Letter the Governor desired Mr. Croghan and Mr. Montour to take upon them the Distribution of the Present, and the following Instructions were drawn up for the Regulation of their Conduct on that Occasion:

"*By the Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex, upon Delaware:*

"To GEORGE CROGHAN, Esquire, and Mr. ANDREW MONTOUR:

"*Whereas,* A Quantity of Goods to the Value of Seven Hundred

Pounds has been provided by the Government for the several Nations of Indians at Ohio, the same is forthwith to be carried and distributed amongst them by you. I trust you will be sensible of the Importance of the concern committed to your Care, and manage with so much Prudence and Skill as that the Present shall have its full Force and Effect.

"As soon as you arrive at Ohio let some of the Chiefs of the Six Nations know of your coming; let them be those that You are fully convinced are strictly attached to the English Interest, and let them know that you have a Message and a Present from the Governor of Pennsylvania to the Indians on Ohio, chiefly to strengthen the Alliance of the Six Nations with the other Indians, and that they must assist the Governor of Pennsylvania as if it were in Council together, and form a Speech to be made to three particular Nations, Viz., the Shawonese, Delawares, and Owendaets, and put them in mind of what was transacted three Years ago with the Owendaets by the Six United Nations of Indians at Ohio and the Deputies from the Government of Pennsylvania, Conrad Weiser, Esquire, and yourselves, which you will perceive by Mr. Weiser's Journal, a Copy of which I herein inclose You. At that time the Owendaets promised to pay a visit to their unknown Brethren in Philadelphia and make themselves known to them, but as they have not fulfilled their Promise You have now brought that Present, or Part of it, which the Government of Pennsylvania intended to make them on their Visit; and as the Six United Nations and the People of Pennsylvania are one People, of one Mind and one Body, It is expected the Six Nation Brethren on Ohio should assist You and deliver the Present in the best manner possible.

"As to the Delawares, You must inform the said Chiefs what passed between them and Conrad Weiser at that time where you both were present; that the Delawares acquainted Conrad Weiser of their lamentable Condition for the Loss of their Chief, who was a Man well beloved by their Brethren the English, and that they the Delawares then promised to visit their Brethren in Philadelphia to Consult with them about a new Chief, but that those men who made such Promise, viz., Shawanapon and Others, are since dead, which makes their Case still the more deplorable, and that their Brethren in Philadelphia have sent them a Present to condole with them and wipe off the Tears from their Eyes, and advise them to recommend such Persons to us as well as to the Six Nations, with whom Publick Business shall be transacted, and that their Brethren in Philadelphia will look upon them so recommended as Chief or Chiefs of the Delawares, and use him or them accordingly on all Occasions; and if they cannot agree about the Affair, that their Brethren of Pennsylvania, with whom the Delawares are one People, being come out of the same spot of Ground will advise or direct as Occasion may require, Application of their Brethren the Delawares being first made.

"As to the Shawonese you must acquaint the Six Nations' Chiefs that upon their Recommendation the People of Pennsylvania are entirely reconciled with the Shawonese, and nothing now seems wanting but a more free conversation and correspondence between the Shawonese and Six United Nations, and therefore the Six United Nations are desir'd to join with this Government in removing all obstacles yet remaining, which can be but trifles, and that the Present to be given them is to serve for that purpose, and that from henceforth we jointly with the Six United Nations expect a more free and open correspondence with the Shawonese.

"Then say, Brethren this that has been said to you now is the chief part of our Instructions, and your Brethren the Governor of Pennsylvania and the old men the Counsellors desire you will join with them and assist in the whole, as it is chiefly intended to strengthen your arms, who are the head of all the Indians in North America. To enforce this on your minds the Governor sends you this Belt of Wampum.

"Mr. Andrew Montour must make himself Master of what is abovesaid so that he may be capable to be Speaker; but if the Six Nation Chiefs should appoint one of them to be Speaker care must be taken that he keep to that which was agreed upon before in Council, for it is known that some assuming fellows amongst them will take upon them to speak in Publick and go so far astray that they put every thing in Confusion.

"It is supposed after the Delivery of the Belt they will hold a Council, and when by their answer you perceive that they are well pleased, you are only to reserve so much of the Provincial Present as will cloathe them that assist you, so that they may have each of them a Strowd, a Shirt, a pair of Stockings, some Powder and Lead, as you will see cause, but if they should seem dissatisfied because nothing was said to them of a Present (tho' 'tis hoped they will be well pleased) that then you tell them that there was some things in reserve for them, and then you must give them a share of the Present. When you are in Council with them you must acquaint them in proper Form, or let Mr. Andrew Montour speak to them in my name as follows:

"'Brethren, the Six Nations:

"'We received a Message from you by Mr. Montour imparting to us one from the Twightwees to you, wherein they set forth that they are young and unexperienced and that you are their elder Brothers, and therefore pray your advice how to behave in their new Alliance, promising to follow it, and further desiring you to acquaint the English that they will ever remain faithful to them. We thank you for your communication of this their Message, we rely on you to give them good advice and on them to follow it, and we repeat to you and them our assurances to behave towards you with the greatest Friendship and affection.

"'Brethren of the Six Nations:

"'You likewise did impart to us a Message given you for us by the Owendaets, who by you complain they are not admitted into the General Peace; how comes this to pass, are they not free and independent Indians and as such have a Right to live where they please, and as we do not infringe upon the Liberties of the Indians, so neither ought the French to do it, and if they do it ought to be the voice of one and all the Indians to resent and to put a stop to such unjust Proceedings.

"'Brethren, the Six Nations:

"'We received another Message from you by Conajarca, requesting to be informed when the Proprietaries buy any Lands of the Six Nations, that you might receive some of the Consideration Money. Brethren, we sent your Belt to the Six Nation Council at Onondago, being under an Engagement to treat with none but them about Lands, and they have your Belt now under consideration.

"'Brethren, the Twightwees:

"'As you are an antient and renowned Nation, we were pleased when you sent your Deputies now three Years ago to sollicit our alliance, nor did we hesitate to grant your Request as it came so warmly recommended to us by our Brethren the Six Nations, Delawares, and Shawonese; at your further Request we ordered our Traders to go among you with their Goods, and to sell You them at a reasonable rate and of good sorts. We understand that in obedience to our Commands the Traders have visited you and given you intire Satisfaction. By one of them, Mr. Hugh Crawford, we received a Message from you, pressing us to send a greater Number of Traders, and to this we returned you our answer by Mr. Montour and Mr. Croghan, who, we are informed, delivered it to you in one of your Towns about two months ago. Mr. Croghan likewise informs Us at the same time two other Tribes of your Nation earnestly requesting to become our Allies, he and Mr. Montour did receive a Writing from You certifying such Your Request, and containing Your Promises of Fidelity and Friendship, which we have seen and approve.

"'Brethren, the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese, Owendaets, and Twightwees, Hear what we have to say to You all in general:

"'I am informed by Mr. Croghan that the French and some Indians in their Alliance obstruct our Traders, carry away their Persons and Goods, and are guilty of many more outrageous Practices, whereby the Road between us and You is now very unsafe to travel in, nor can we ask any of the Traders to go any more amongst You Whilst their Lives and Effects are in such imminent Danger. How comes this to pass? Does not this proceed from the Pride and Covetousness of Onontio, whom the Indians frequently call their Father, because they do not see his ill designs? The strong Houses you gave him Leave to erect on Your Lands serves (as your Breth-

ren the English always told you) to impoverish you and to keep your wives and children always naked by keeping the English Traders at a Distance, well knowing the English sell their Goods cheaper than they can afford; and I can assure You Onontio will never rest whilst an English Trader comes to Ohio; and, indeed, if you do not open your Eyes he will obtain his End. The strong Houses You gave him leave to build on Your Land makes him so insolent and untractable.'

"Given under my Hand and the Lesser seal of the said Province at Philadelphia, the Twenty-Fifth Day of April, in the Year of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-one.

"JAMES HAMILTON."

A private Instruction was added to the above in a Letter to George Croghan, expressingly forbidding him to make any publick mention of building a Fort, but only desiring him to sound the Indians on this Point when by themselves in private Conversation.

The Governor further informed the Council that George Croghan had been in Town and given him the following Intelligence, which he obliged him to put down in writing, namely, that the French Indians had made Prisoners of three of the Traders' Men and taken their Goods, and by the Description given of them by the Indians they must have been his Men; that it was reported that a Body of French and French Indians had determined for the Twightwee Country to destroy the English Traders there as soon as the Season would permit; adding of himself that if some measures were not speedily taken to encourage the Indians to join and repel the French the English Interest wou'd soon come to nothing in those Parts; and if they shou'd lose themselves with those Indians the Six Nations would not long continue their Regards for the English.

Mr. Croghan further related that in February last he and Andrew Montour had been with the Twightwees on the Big Miamis Creek, a Branch of the River Ohio; and that at the time they were there Two Nations, called the Waughwaoughtanneys and Pyankeskees, two Tribes of the Twightwee Nation, came into Council and desired they might be admitted into the Alliance of the English; That thereupon Mr. Montour and he (though they had no Authority from the Governor), rather than discourage these People at so critical a time did hearken to them, and drew up an Instrument which was executed on both sides; that he the Governor had reproved Mr. Croghan for acting in publick matters without his orders, but had however taken the Instrument from him, and being read, it was ordered to be entered, it might be known hereafter what had been done:

"*Whereas*, At an Indian Treaty held at the Twightwee's Town on the Big Miamis Creek, being a Branch of the River Ohio, on Thursday the twenty-second Instant before George Croghan and

Andrew Montour, Twenty men of the Waughwaoughtanneys and Pyankeskees, Two of their Indian Chiefs, viz., Takentoa Molsinonghko, and Nynickoneghee, Appeared in Behalf of themselves and their nations, and prayed that as their Indian Brothers the Twightwees had been lately admitted into the Friendship and Alliance of the King of Great Britain and his Subjects, and as they are Tribes of the said Twightwees, earnestly desired to be admitted into the said Chain of Friendship and Alliance of the King of Great Britain and his Subjects, professing on their Parts to become true and faithful Friends and Allies to the English, and so forever to continue. Mishikinoughwee and Nemesqua and all of them, Nations in Friendship and Alliance with the English, becoming an earnest Intercesser with the said Chiefs on their Behalfs the Prayers of the said Chiefs of the Waughwaoughtanneys and Pyankeskees was granted, a firm Treaty and Alliance of Friendship was then stipulated and agreed on between the said George Croghan and Andrew Montour in Behalf of the Governor of Pennsylvania and the said Chiefs or Deputies of Waughwaoughtanneys and Pyankeskees Nations, as by the Records of that Council held will more fully appear. *Now these Presents Witness*, and it is hereby declared, that the said Nations of Indians called the Waughwaoughtanneys and Pyankeskees are accepted by the said George Croghan and Andrew Montour as good Friends and Allies of the English Nation; and they the said Nations and the Subjects of the King of Great Britain shall forever after be as one head and one heart, and live in true Friendship as one People. In consideration whereof the said Takentoa, Molsinoughko, and Nynickenowen, Chiefs of the said Waughaoughtanneys and Pyankeskees Nations, Do hereby, in behalf of the Nations, covenant, promise, and declare, that the several People of the said Waughwaoughtanneys and Pyankeskees Nations, or any of them, shall not at any time hurt or injure or defraud, or suffer to be hurt, injured, or defrauded, any of the Subjects of the King of Great Britain, either in their Persons or Estates, but shall at all times readily do Justice and perform to them all the Acts and offices of Friendship and Good Will. *Item;* That the said Waughwaoughtanneys and Pyankeskees Nations by the Alliance aforesaid becoming entitled to the Privilege and Protection of the English Laws, they shall at all times behave themselves regularly, and soberly according to the Laws of the Government of Pennsylvania whilst they live or be amongst or near the Christian Inhabitants thereof. *Item;* That none of the said Nations shall at any time be aiding, assisting, or abetting to or with any other Nation, whether of Indians or others, that shall not at such time be in Amity with the Crown of England and the said Government of Pennsylvania. *Item;* that if at any time any of the said Waughwaoughtanneys and Pyankeskees Nations by means of evil-minded Persons and Sowers of Sedition should hear of any unkind or disadvantageous Reports of the English, as if they had evil Designs against any of the Said Indians, in such case such Indians shall send Notice thereof to the

Governor of the aforesaid Province for the time being, and shall not give Credit to the said Reports till by that means they shall be fully satisfied of the Truth thereof; and it is agreed that the English shall in such cases do the same by them *In Testimony whereof*, as well the said George Croghan and Andrew Montour as the Chiefs of the Waughwaoughtanneys and Pyankeskees Nations have smoaked the Calumet Pipe, made Mutual Presents to each other, and hereunto set their Hands and Seals, the twenty-second Day of February, in the Year of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty, and in the Twenty-Fourth Year of the Reign of George the Second, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c.

"GEO. CROGHAN [L. S.]

"Signed, Sealed, and Delivered in the Presence of Us.

"CHRIST^{N}. GIST,
"ROBT. KELLENER,
his
"THOMAS T. K. KINTON,
mark.
"JOHN POTTS,
his
"TAKEN X TOA, [L. S.]
mark.
his
"MOLSIN X OUGHO, [L. S.]
mark.
his
"NYNICKEN X OUGHEE, [L. S.]
mark.
his
"ANDREW X MONTOUR.
mark.

"John J. P. Peter, a Delaware man, present; Lawaghannicko, a Shawonese man, present."

These several Matters being taken into Consideration, it was thought proper that they should be laid before the Assembly, which was accordingly done with the following Message:

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"I was very well pleased with your Resolution, signified to me at the Close of the last Session, to adjourn to the Beginning of this Month in order that you might be the better enabled to consider from such Intelligence as might then be given You what measures it might be proper for you to take with regard to Indian Affairs.

"I have since received a Letter from Governor Clinton, acquainting me that by Advice of his Council he has postponed his meeting

the Six Nations at Albany to the twenty-fifth of next Month to give the several Governors he has applied to on that Occasion more time to consult their respective Assemblies on an Affair of so much Importance, desiring further, that if I have any Proposals to offer in Consequence of any Resolves to be made by You, that I should impart them as soon as possible; wherefore, if any such should occur that you think necessary to be settled previous to the said Treaty, you will please to communicate them to me with all convenient Dispatch, and you may assure yourselves of my Readiness to concur with You in whatever may tend to the Interest of the Province.

"Mr. Croghan having been lately in Town from Ohio related to me the Intelligence contained in the Paper herewith laid before you, which for its Importance very well deserves, and I earnestly recommend to your most serious Attention. He is now returned to Ohio in order to deliver the Provincial Present to the Indians there about the middle of this Month.

"If any thing new had happened in the Countries contiguous to New York, I am perswaded Governor Clinton would have communicated it to me, but as he has been altogether silent on that head I conclude there has been no Alteration of Affairs there since your last Session; I have, therefore, now only to desire you to revise the contents of the Papers then laid before you, and to come to such Resolutions thereupon as may enable me to do what is becoming this Government.

"The Six Nations whose Example will be followed by all the other Indians, seem to be actually afraid of the French; and though their Affections are manifestly in favour of the English, yet if they find no Support from them sufficient to dispel these Fears, it must be expected they will be obliged to quit our Interest and depend on those who will afford them better Protection.

"This is the Light in which I see matters at present, and should you concur with me in Sentiment I make no doubt but your Resolves will be answerable to the Exigency of Affairs.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"PHILADELPHIA, May 7th, 1751."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Saturday, the 11th May, 1751.

PRESENT:

The Honourable. JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Benjamin Shoemaker,
Joseph Turner, Thomas Hopkinson, } Esquires.
William Logan, Richard Peters.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

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To the Honourable Lewis Burwell Esquire President of his Majesty's Council and Commander in Chief of Virginia.

Honorable Sir

Having received your Honours Commands to give an Account of the Bounds of this Colony, of our Back Settlements, of the Lands towards the Mountains and Lakes, and whether or no any Forreign Nation has ever encroached on the Bounds of Virginia, I humbly lay before your Honour the following Remarks.

After several Attempts for settling English Colonies on the Coast of North America, a Charter was obtained from King James the first bearing Date April the 10th 1606, by which the Bounds of Virginia were the Latitudes of 34 and 45 Degrees North, and two Companies were permitted to settle a Colony each within the said Bounds, care being taken that they should not interfere with one another. But by this Charter only one hundred miles Square in the Main Land, and the Islands within an hundred Miles of their Coast were granted to each Colony.

In the Year following in consequence of this Charter a Colony was seated within the Bay of Chesapeak on the River Powhatan, now called James River, and James Town was built, which we have ever since been in Possession of.

In the Year 1609 a new Charter was obtained for the said Colony, in which all the Lands, Countries and Territories were granted situate, lying and being in that Part of America called Virginia from the Cape or Point Comfort, two hundred miles Northward, and two hundred Miles southward along the Sea Coast; and all that Space and Circuit of Land lying from the Sea Coast of the Precinct aforesaid up into the main Land throughout from Sea to Sea, West and North West, and also all the Islands lying within one hundred Miles along the Coast of both Seas of the Precinct aforesaid.

Point Comfort is the north Point of the Mouth of James River in the Latitude of 37°. 3.

And if a doubt should arise about the Meaning of any Expression in this or the former Charter it was to be taken in Favour of the Colony.

Since that Time out of these Bounds have been taken by several Grants part of Carolina, all Maryland, and part of Pensylvania and New Jersey, for two hundred miles northward from Point Comfort mile extend beyond the North Cape of De la War Bay.

Carolina is not bounded westward but by the Pacific Sea, which Boundary may be claimed as far as two hundred miles south from Point Comfort by King James's second Charter to Virginia, and that will be about the Latitude of 31°, the South Limit of the first Charter before mentioned. It is divided from Virginia by a West Line from

Currotuck Inlet, three hundred and thirty six miles of which have been run and marked, which is about six Degrees of Longitude).

Maryland is divided from Virginia by a Line, which in the year 1668 by Commissioners from both Governments was run and marked across the Peninsula on the East side of Chesapeak Bay, opposite to the Mouth of Potomack; by that River from the Mouth to the Head Spring, and thence by the Meridian of the said Spring to the South Limit of Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania is bounded Westward by a Meridian five Degrees of Longitude from De la War River.

The present Bounds of Virginia thereto, On the East, the Sea Coast between Currotuck Inlet in the Latitude of 36° and 30', and the Maryland Line before mentioned, which is about the Latitude of 38; On the South, the Bounds of Maryland and Pennsylvania, as far as they extend, and thence a North-west Line drawn from a Point of the Sea coast, which is two hundred Miles North from Point Comfort, to the Pacific Ocean; On the West, the Coast of that Sea from the End of the North west Line aforesaid to the Latitude of Currotuck Inlet, and on the South that Parallel of Latitude, the Islands within one hundred Miles of the Coast of both Seas of the Precincts aforesaid being included.

These Bounds take in a large Part of the Lakes, and all the Head Branches and Springs

of Missisippi.

By a third Charter dated March the 12th 1611-2 the Islands between the Latitudes of 30° and 41° north and within three hundred Leagues of both Coasts of Virginia were granted, but this was chiefly designed to take in Bermudas our right to which never has been disputed.

For Proof of the Bounds see Mr Smiths History of Virginia and the Appendix.

Monsieur de la Sale was the first French Man, that discovered the Missisippi, who in the Year 1682, with Monsieur de Tonti and others from Montreal travelled through the Nation of the Iroquois, called now the Six Nations, to a Nation of Indians named Islinois, living on an east Branch of the Missisippi, of the same name with the Nation, but he called it Seignelay.

On this River he built a Fort, which he named Lewis, according to Joutel's Account, but Father Hennepin calls it Crevecaur.

Monsieur de la Sale went down this River to the Missisippi, and down it to the Mouth, which he found to be in the Bay of Mexico. He then returned by Canada to France, and obtained from the King Ships, and Men in the Year 1684 to discover the Mouth of the Missisippi by Sea, but he missed it and landed on the Continent to the South west.

From thence he made some journeys into the Country to look for the River, but was murdered by some of his own Men without finding it.

Monsieur Joutel, from whose journal I have this information, with some others, resumed the Design of looking for the River, and of making their Way to Canada. They came at last to the Mississipi and went up it, and the River Illinois to Fort Lewis, where they arrived September the 18th, 1687, at which Time there was a French Garrison in the Fort, commanded by Monsieur de Tonti.

This Fort by the Map annexed to the Journal, appears to be situated at a great distance from Lake Illinois. And it cannot be for Monsieur Joutel to find out the time it took him in going to, and returning from that Lake; for they came to the Fort September the 18th. Stayed there some time to refresh themselves, and to get Necessaries for their Journey to Canada, and when they came to the Lake, they waited six Days on account of bad weather before they imbarked, and several times were obliged to put back, leave their Goods and Provisions, and returned to the Fort October the seventh.

In the next Spring they set off from the Fort March the fourth, and at the Lake the twenty ninth, where they met with great difficulties in their way.

This Lake therefore must lie in Virginia. Monsieur Joutel says that he could not tell the Latitude of it, for

want of Instruments, but I rather think it is purposely that it might not appear from their own shewing to be in Virginia; for who can think that French Officers and a Garison should live there without knowing the Lattitude pretty nearly, if not to exactness?

An Expression in the Book sellers Preface seems to favour this Conjecture. The Words in the English Translation are these Viz —— "One of those whom "I desired to peruse this Manuscript, has a little "polished it according to the Orders I received.

Of a like nature is the avoiding any Mention of Virginia in the French Kings Grant to Monsieur Crozat which in the English runs thus —— "We by "these Presents signed by our hand have appointed "and do appoint the said Sieur Crozat solely to carry "on a Trade in all the Lands possessed by us, and "Extended by New Mexico, and the Lands of the "English of Carolina —— And further upon the Missi-"sippi is mentioned as high as the Illinois, and Missouris and Ouabache to the heads, which Rivers are in Virginia.

For Confirmation of these Things see Monsieur Joutels Journal of the last Voyage performed by Monsieur de la Sale with the Preface and Introduction; and the French Kings Grant of an exclusive Trade to Louisiana to Monsieur Crozat dated September the 14th. 1712 printed at London in the Year 1717 having been translated from the French just before published at Paris.

In the Year 1742 one John Howard received a Commission from our Governour to make Discoveries westward, and with four or five others set out from the Branches of James River and came to the new River. There they made a Boat with Buffaloes Hides and went down, till their Canoe the River impassable on account of Ice.

Leaving it they travelled with waterly a considerable way to another River, which proved to be a South Branch of the new River, for there made them another Boat and went down to that River, and with it to the Allegany River.

The River Meccacanehaan with Juniatta, and the Waters of the Lakes, and receiving or discharging waters the Streams from the Alleganey Ridge that way go to the New River comes from the South West Side and the Alleganey from the North East Side

Howard and his Men proceeded down this River a long way, by their reckoning above eight hundred miles to the Mississippi and went down it a great way till they were surprized by a Party of Men, French, Indians, and Negroes, were made Prisoners, and carried to New Orleans.

Thus set out from the Branches of James River March the 16th came to Alleganey May the 6th to Mississippi June the 7th and were taken July the 9th

In all this time and large tract of Country they had seen no body till they were taken, but about fifteen Indians in several Companies, and they too were chiefly, if not all of the Northern Nations.

From which I conclude that the Country between our Settlements, and the Missisippi is uninhabited, or at most has only some inconsiderable Indian Villages.

That there are no Indian Nations living in it, is owing to the strength, and disposition of the Six Nations, who at this time make Incursions on the Catawbas living in North Carolina, meerly for the sake of killing them; traversing on foot for this purpose a Country of the extent of eight or nine Degrees of Latitude.

John Peter Salley, one of the men, who went with Howard, in his Journal mentions three French Towns on an Island in the Missisippi above the Mouth of Orabache, but this as well as his Account of the Salt Work, and Lead Mine, he had from information after he was taken; for they did not go up the River, and the Mengo who took them, came from that Settlement in a Fleet of small Craft guarded by an armed Schooner, because the Cherokees and other Indians at War with the French sometimes intercept them on the Missisippi.

Monsieur Joutel in his Journal takes notice of a Salt Spring, which his Indian Guides shewed him between the Mouths of Orabache and the River Illinois; and

186 that, I suppose, is the Place, where the French make Salt.

These French Towns, Salt Work, and Lead Mine must be in Virginia.

Howard and his Men had been confined a long time at New Orleans, when after the French War broke out he, and one or two of them were shipped for France, but in the Voyage were taken by an English Ship, and carryed to London, where, I suppose, he gave a fuller account of his Expedition than I can collect from an imperfect Journal.

At last the rest of them made their escape out of Prison, and through great difficulties got to South-Carolina, and from thence to Virginia, where they are now living.

John Peter Salley in his Journal says — "We were "told by some of the French, who first settled there, that "about forty Years ago, when the French first discovered "the Place, and made an Attempt to settle therein there "were pretty many English settled on both Sides of the "River Missisippi, and one Twenty Gun Ship lay in "the River. What became of the Ship we did not hear, but "we were informed, that the English Inhabitants were "destroyed by the Natives by the Instigation of the French.

If this be true, it is most likely to be known in England or Jamaica; and a Proof of it would give the English a Right by Possession to the southern part of the River, as well as the Northern by King James the First's Charter to Virginia.

Though the French discovered the Missisippi in 1682, they made no considerable Settlement, if any on it before the Peace of Utrecht, as may be collected from the French King's Grant to Monsieur Crozat, and is agreeable

enough to the account of the Inhabitants, who took their settling about that Time to have been their first Discovery of the Country.

See John Peter Salley's Journal

Mr. Thomas Walker on behalf of himself and a Company of other Gentlemen who have a Grant of Land on the Waters of Mississippi, went last Year with five Men to discover the Country, and look for fit Places for Settlements. He was out some Months, discovered and named several of the Rivers westward of the Alleganey Ridge; and built an House on Cumberland River, as is noted in the Map; but he saw neither Indian or white man beyond our own Settlements, which is a further Proof that the Country is not inhabited.

The Virginia Settlements have been greatly extended within the last thirty years, for before that time there were few Inhabitants above the Falls of the Rivers. At present the Country is not only well peopled as far westward as the Blue Ridge of Mountains, but beyond it even to the Alleganey Ridge, that is to the head Springs of all our Rivers which run into the Atlantick Ocean, the South head Branches of Roanoke being excepted, which are but thinly settled.

Beyond the Alleganey or Mississippi Ridge on the New River and its Branches, and on the North

Branch of Holston are seated about one hundred Families, but the Settlements that way with proper Incouragement will in a short time greatly encrease.

The Lands towards the Heads of the Rivers, and a great way beyond our Settlements are Mountainous, but there are fruitful Vallies, and much also of the high land is exceedingly rich.

Mr Thomas Walker before mentioned went westward till he came into a flat Country, and could discover no more Mountains that way; and the men who went with John Howard say that they saw on the Mississipi and its large Branches more good Land, than they judge is in all the English Colonies as far as they are inhabited.

The Lands near the Lakes are unknown to the Inhabitants of Virginia

There are no Indians either within or near the Bounds of Virginia, as far as I know, of any considerable Force, but the Cherokees living back of North and South Carolina, and the Six Nations in the Province of New York; and these, but more especially the latter have much decreased since our knowledge of them. Mr Colden in his History of the Six Nations says, that they are now not above a tenth of the number, they were of, when they first waged War with the French of Canada.

This is a natural Consequence of their restless

and martial Spirit, who will hardly suffer a Nation of Indians to live within a thousand miles of them unmolested.

With the Cherokee Virginia never had any War, or League of Peace; but a Trade has been carried on with them for many Years to the content and advantage of both sides; and they never set up any claim to Lands in this Colony.

The Northern Indians have many times committed Hostilities within this Country, sometimes on the White Inhabitants, but chiefly on the Tributary Indians, and we have frequently made, that is bought Peace, though never at any great price. And indeed they never carried on a War against any of the English Colonies with that inveteracy, or national Consent, as they did against the French; and if there be any coldness between us at present, I suppose it proceeds from our backwardness in the last war to attack Canada, which they greatly desired.

The first Peace this Colony made with them was at Albany by Col: Courey an Inhabitant of — Maryland in the Year 1677, which, after some Breach made by the Indians, was renewed in the year 1679 by Col Kendal; and again by Lord Howard of Effingham then Governour of Virginia, who went himself to Albany in 1684.

By this Treaty the Indians were obliged not to come near the Heads, that is the Falls or upper Landings of the Rivers, and in their way to, and

from the Southern Indian Nations were to keep near the foot of the Mountains.

This Peace was soon broke also and renewed by Col: William Byrd and Col: Edmond Jennings in the year 1685.

The Indians had been ever since the year 1684 in Possession of a Road by Treaty on the east side of the Blue Ridge, and frequently hunted on the Lands between the Falls of the Rivers and the Mountains; and, after the Country began to be cleared that way, were troublesome to the Inhabitants. To remedy this Col Spotswood then Lieutenant Governour treated, and confirmed a Peace with them at Albany in the year 1722, by which they were obliged not to come to the eastward of the Blue Ridge, or to the southward of Patowmack River, and the Indians Tributary to Virginia were not to go to the westward, or northward of those Bounds.

When we began to take up Lands, and settle beyond the Blue Ridge the Six Nations grievously complaining we had broke the Peace, though there was no Stipulation, that the English should not go over; but the Indians claimed the Land as theirs, and a Skirmish happened between a Party of them, and some of our Inhabitants. This brought on the Treaty of Lancaster in the year 1744, where the Honorable Thomas Lee lately deceased, and William Beverley Esquires were Commissioners.

The Indians Title to the Lands being enquired into, they claimed it as theirs by the right of Conquest, and enumerated the Nations they had destroyd or carried away from the back parts of Virginia, mentioning it as a Thing notorious, which all the World knew; and they alledged it had cost them too much Blood to be parted with for nothing. The Commissioners then came to Terms with them, and for a Sum of Money, and a quantity of Goods they released their right, and acknowledged his Majesty's Title to all the Lands in Virginia, as it is now, or hereafter may be peopled or bounded.

The Conquests of the Six Nations extended as far west as the Mississippi, as may be seen in Colden's History.

The Ohio Indians live, I suppose, on the River of that Name, above the Mouth of the New River; for below or any where on the New River there are no Indians seated; and they must be subject to, or in Alliance with the Six Nations.

The Catawbas are of a Martial Spirit, but inconsiderable as to their numbers, having been wasted by a destructive War between them and the Six Nations.

In the Account of Howard's Expedition I have in some things gone out of Salley's Journal, in which I follow the Information I have personally had from Salley himself. I am Sir

Your Honours most dutyful
and humble Servant

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May the 8th 1751. Josh. Fry

Penſylvania is bounded weſtward by a Meridian five Degrees of Longitude from De-la-War River, which River and the Meridian of its head Spring is the Eaſt Boundary of that Colony.

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Theſe French Towns Salt Work & Lead Mine must be in Virginia; becauſe the Mouth of Ovabache is near our South Bounds, and our North Line takes in the head Branches of Miſſiſippi.

Mr Colden in his Hiſtory of the Six Nations ſays, that they are now not above a tenth of the Number they were of, when New York was firſt ſettled.

The Inhabitants of Virginia know nothing of the Indian Nations, that live among the Lakes and weſtward of them, but from Books ſuch as Colden's Hiſtory and others. I believe there is not any one ſo numerous as the Cherokees, or the Six Nations, but a beneficial Trade may be had with them, which, I ſuppoſe, at preſent is chiefly engroſſed by the French at Miſſilimakinac, an Iſland in the Streights between Lake Illinois and Huron.

To be inſerted between the two laſt Paragraphs

Virginia

An Account of ye Bounds of the Colony of Virginia, & of it's back Settlements, & of ye Lands towards the Mountains & Lakes. Dated the 8.th of May 1751.

Compiled by Mr Joshua Fry, as directed by the Honble Lewis Burwell Esqr President of His Majesty's Council, & Comander in Chief of Virginia.

Referr'd to in Col.^o Burwell's Lett.^r dated ye 21.st August 1751.

Rec.^d Dec. 9. } 1751.
Read March 11 } 1752

W. 64.

3.1

Pennsylvania. 1751.

These several Matters being taken into Consideration, it was thought proper that they should be laid before the Assembly which was accordingly done with the following Message.

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

Gentlemen

I was very well pleased with your Resolution signified to me at the Close of the last Session, to adjourn to the Beginning of this Month, in order that you might be the better enabled to consider, from such Intelligence as might then be given You, what Measures it might be proper for you to take, with regard to Indian affairs.

I have since received a Letter from Governor Clinton, acquainting me, that by Advice of his Council, he has postponed his Meeting the Six Nations at Albany, to the twenty fifth of next Month, to give the several Governors he has applied to on that Occasion, more time to consult their respective Assemblies, on an affair of so much Importance; desiring further, that if I have any Proposals to offer in Consequence of any Resolves to be made by you, that I should impart them as soon as possible; wherefore, if any such should occur that you think necessary to be settled, previous to the said Treaty, you will please to communicate them to me with all convenient Dispatch, and you may assure yourselves of my Readiness to concur with you in whatever may tend to the Interest of the Province.

Mr Croghan having been lately in Town, from Ohio, related to me the Intelligence contained in the Paper herewith laid before You; which for its Importance very well deserves, and I earnestly recommend to your most serious Attention. He is now returned to Ohio, in order to deliver the Provincial Present to the Indians there, about the Middle of this Month.

If any thing new had happened in the Countries contiguous to New York, I am perswaded Governor Clinton would have communicated it to me; but as he has been altogether silent on that head, I conclude there has been no Alteration of Affairs there since your last Session; I have therefore now only to desire You to revise the Contents of the Papers then laid before You, and to come to such Resolutions thereupon, as may enable me to do what is becoming this Government.

The Six Nations, whose Example will be followed by all the other Indians, seem to be actually afraid of the French; and though their Affections are manifestly in favour of the English, yet if they find no Support from them, sufficient to dispel these Fears, it must be expected they will be obliged to quit our Interest, and depend on those who will afford them better Protection.

This is the Light in which I see Matters at present; and should you concur with me in Sentiment, I make no doubt but your Resolves will be answerable to the Exigency of Affairs.

Philadelphia
May 7th. 1751.

James Hamilton

At a Council held at Philadelphia Saturday the 11th of May 1751.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Joseph Turner, William Logan } Esquires

Benjamin Shoemaker, Thomas Hopkinson, Richard Peters } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The following Message was delivered to the Governor by two Members of Assembly.

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

May it please the Governor,

We have considered the Governor's Message concerning Indian affairs, and the several Letters and Papers therein mentioned, with that Attention the Importance of them requires, and are very sensible of his Care and Concern to confirm and extend our Interest with our Indian Allies.

As we find there is no late Intelligence of a material Change in the State of these ... affairs

Affairs; we hope the Presents lately sent to the Indians at Ohio, will be received by them as Proofs of our Friendship, and may (if properly distributed by the Persons appointed to deliver them) have the desired good Effect of confirming them in their Alliances with Us. We doubt not the Governor has given the necessary Instructions to those who are entrusted therewith, and as the Interest of the Province is essentially concerned in the Conduct of the Persons employed on these Occasions, we shall readily concur with the Governor, in any Measures necessary to prevent them from entering into any Engagements further than his Instructions shall warrant.

As we do not apprehend our joining in the intended Treaty at Albany, to be necessary at this time; we request the Governor to direct Conrad Weiser to meet the Six Nations there, with the small Present provided for them, and a Message of Condolence on the Death of Canassatego, and their other Chiefs, who were our steady Friends; and if on the Intelligence we may receive at our next Meeting, any further Measures should appear to Us proper to enter into, we shall chearfully concur in doing what may be most conducive to the Peace and Tranquility of the Province.

Signed by Order of the House.

May 9. 1751.

Isaac Norris, Speaker.

The House having agreed to all the Amendments, made by the Governor, to the Hospital Bill, except the seventh, which was withdrawn; the Bill was returnd with a Message, that his Honour would pass it, when presented to him for that Purpose; that thereupon the amended Bill had been engrossed and compared, and the Governor had appointed the House to wait on him this Morning in the Council Chamber, in order to enact it into a Law, which was accordingly done, and a Committee appointed to see the Great Seal affixed to it, and the Law deposited in the Rolls Office.

The House with the Governors Consent adjourned to the twelfth of August next.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Saturday the 29th of June 1751.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Robert Strettell, Benjamin Shoemaker, Joseph Turner } Esquires

Thomas Hopkinson, William Logan, Richard Peters } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

Information having been lately transmitted of his Royal Highness's Death on the ... Day of March last, together with his Majesties Order in Council for a General Mourning; it was unanimously agreed to address his Majesty on that truly sorrowful Event in the Words following.

To the Kings most Excellent Majesty.

The Humble Address of the Lieutenant Governor and Council of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of Newcastle, Kent and Sussex, on Delaware.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

As no affliction can befall your Majesty of which your remotest Subjects do not partake: Permit us, with Hearts full of Grief, humbly to condole with your Majesty on the ... inexpressible Loss, Your Majesty and the Nation have sustained in the Death of his late Royal Highness the Prince of Wales: A Loss by so much the more to be lamented, as that excellent and most amiable Prince possessed so many shining Qualities and uncommon Virtues; nor can this melancholy Event admit of any Consolation, but in our Hopes of the Continuance of Your Majesties Health, which

we

Governor of the aforesaid Province for the time being, and shall not give Credit to the said Reports till by that means they shall be fully satisfied of the Truth thereof; and it is agreed that the English shall in such cases do the same by them. *In Testimony whereof*, as well the said George Croghan and Andrew Montour as the Chiefs of the Waughwaoughtanneys and Pyankeskees Nations have smoaked the Calumet Pipe, made Mutual Presents to each other, and hereunto set their Hands and Seals, the twenty-second Day of February, in the Year of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty, and in the Twenty-Fourth Year of the Reign of George the Second, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c.

"GEO. CROGHAN [L. S.]

"Signed, Sealed, and Delivered in the Presence of Us.

"CHRIST^{N}. GIST,
"ROBT. KELLENER,
his
"THOMAS T. K. KINTON,
mark.
"JOHN POTTS,
his
"TAKEN X TOA, [L. S.]
mark.
his
"MOLSIN X OUGHO, [L. S.]
mark.
his
"NYNICKEN X OUGHEE, [L. S.]
mark.
his
"ANDREW X MONTOUR.
mark.

"John J. P. Peter, a Delaware man, present; Lawaghannicko, a Shawonese man, present."

These several Matters being taken into Consideration, it was thought proper that they should be laid before the Assembly, which was accordingly done with the following Message:

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"I was very well pleased with your Resolution, signified to me at the Close of the last Session, to adjourn to the Beginning of this Month in order that you might be the better enabled to consider from such Intelligence as might then be given You what measures it might be proper for you to take with regard to Indian Affairs.

"I have since received a Letter from Governor Clinton, acquainting me that by Advice of his Council he has postponed his meeting

the Six Nations at Albany to the twenty-fifth of next Month to give the several Governors he has applied to on that Occasion more time to consult their respective Assemblies on an Affair of so much Importance, desiring further, that if I have any Proposals to offer in Consequence of any Resolves to be made by You, that I should impart them as soon as possible; wherefore, if any such should occur that you think necessary to be settled previous to the said Treaty, you will please to communicate them to me with all convenient Dispatch, and you may assure yourselves of my Readiness to concur with You in whatever may tend to the Interest of the Province.

"Mr. Croghan having been lately in Town from Ohio related to me the Intelligence contained in the Paper herewith laid before you, which for its Importance very well deserves, and I earnestly recommend to your most serious Attention. He is now returned to Ohio in order to deliver the Provincial Present to the Indians there about the middle of this Month.

"If any thing new had happened in the Countries contiguous to New York, I am perswaded Governor Clinton would have communicated it to me, but as he has been altogether silent on that head I conclude there has been no Alteration of Affairs there since your last Session; I have, therefore, now only to desire you to revise the contents of the Papers then laid before you, and to come to such Resolutions thereupon as may enable me to do what is becoming this Government.

"The Six Nations whose Example will be followed by all the other Indians, seem to be actually afraid of the French; and though their Affections are manifestly in favour of the English, yet if they find no Support from them sufficient to dispel these Fears, it must be expected they will be obliged to quit our Interest and depend on those who will afford them better Protection.

"This is the Light in which I see matters at present, and should you concur with me in Sentiment I make no doubt but your Resolves will be answerable to the Exigency of Affairs.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"PHILADELPHIA, May 7th, 1751."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Saturday, the 11th May, 1751.

PRESENT:

The Honourable. JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Benjamin Shoemaker,
Joseph Turner, Thomas Hopkinson, } Esquires.
William Logan, Richard Peters.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The following Message was delivered to the Governor by two Members of Assembly:

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

"May it please the Governor:

"We have considered the Governor's Message concerning Indian Affairs, and the several Letters and Papers therein mentioned, with that Attention the Importance of them requires, and are very sensible of his care and concern to confirm and extend our Interest with our Indian allies.

"As we find there is no late Intelligence of a material change in the state of these Affairs, We hope the Presents lately sent to the Indians at Ohio will be received by them as Proofs of our Friendship, and may (if properly distributed by the Persons appointed to deliver them) have the desired good effect of confirming them in their Alliances with us. We doubt not the Governor has given the necessary Instructions to those who are entrusted therewith; and as the Interest of the Province is essentially concerned in the conduct of the Persons employed on these Occasions, we shall readily concur with the Governor in any measures necessary to prevent them from entering into any Engagements further than his Instructions shall Warrant.

"As we do not apprehend our joining in the intended Treaty at Albany to be necessary at this time, we request the Governor to direct Conrad Weiser to meet the Six Nations there with the small Present provided for them, and a Message of Condolence on the Death of Canassatego and their other chiefs who were our steady Friends, and if on the Intelligence we may receive at our next Meeting any further measures should appear to us proper to enter into, we shall chearfully concur in doing what may be most conducive to the Peace and Tranquility of the Province.

"Signed by order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"May 9, 1751."

The House having agreed to all the Amendments made by the Governor to the Hospital Bill, except the seventh, which was withdrawn, the Bill was returned with a Message that his Honour would pass it when presented to him for that Purpose; that thereupon the amended Bill had been engrossed and compared, and the Governor had appointed the House to wait on him this Morning in the Council Chamber in order to enact it into a Law, which was accordingly done, and a Committee appointed to see the Great Seal affixed to it and the Law deposited in the Rolls Office.

The House, with the Governor's Consent, adjourned to the twelfth of August next.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Saturday the 29th of June, 1751.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Thomas Hopkinson,
Robert Strettell, William Logan,
Benjamin Shoemaker, Richard Peters,
Joseph Turner, } Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

Information having been lately transmitted of his Royal Highness' Death on the — Day of March last, together with his Majestie's Order in Council for a General Mourning, it was unanimously agreed to address his Majesty on that truly sorrowful Event in the words following:

"TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

"*The Humble address of the Lieutenant Governor and Council of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of Newcastle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware.*

"Most Gracious Sovereign:

"As no Affliction can befall your Majesty of which your remotest Subjects do not partake, Permit us, with Hearts full of Grief, humbly to condole with your Majesty on the inexpressible Loss Your Majesty and the Nation have sustained in the Death of his late Royal Highness the Prince of Wales—A Loss by so much the more to be lamented as that excellent and most amiable Prince possessed so many shining Qualities and uncommon Virtues; nor can this melancholy Event admit of any Consolation but in our Hopes of the Continuance of your Majestie's Health, which we most sincerely rejoice to hear is perfectly re-established.

"If the fervent Prayers of all good Men may prevail, we have the strongest reason to hope that your Majestie's precious Life will long be spared as a Blessing to your Dominions and for an Example of Instruction to the Young Prince, who having the inestimable advantage of being formed by Your Majestie's wise Counsel and Direction, cannot fail to imbibe those just Maxims of Government, by the Practice whereof Your Majesty has so successfully promoted the true Interest of Your People and are so deservedly the object of their warmest Gratitude and Affection.

"We pray God to comfort and support Your Majesty under this heavy Affliction, Alleviate Your Sorrow, and shower down on Your Royal Person and every Branch of Your Royal Family the choicest of his Blessings."

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An Account of the Proceedings of George Croghan Esquire and Mr. Andrew Montour at Ohio in the Execution of the Governor's Instructions to deliver the Provincial Present to the several Tribes of Indians settled there.

May the 18th 1751.

I arrived at the Logs Town on Ohio with the Provincial Present from the Province of Pennsylvania where I was received by a great Number of the Six Nations, Delawares and Shawanese in a very complaisant manner in their way by firing Guns and hoisting the English Colours.

As soon as I came to the Shore, their Chiefs met me and took me by the Hand bidding me welcome to their Country.

May the 19th

One of the Six Nation Kings from the Heads of Ohio came to the Log Town to the Council he immediately came to visit me, and told me he was glad to see a Messenger from his Brother Onas on the Waters of Ohio.

May the 20th

Forty Warriors of the Six Nations came to Town from the Heads of Ohio with Mr Joncaur and one Frenchman more in Company.

May the 21st

Mr Joncaur the French Interpreter called a Council with all the Indians then present in the Town and made the following Speech,

Children

Children

I desire you may now give me an answer from your Hearts to the Speech Monsieur Celeron (the Commander of the Party of two hundred French Men that went down the River two years ago) made to you. His Speech was that their Father the Governor of Canada desired his Children on Ohio to turn away the English Traders from amongst them, and to discharge them from ever coming to trade there again or on any of the Branches on pain of incurring his displeasure, and to inforce that Speech he gave them a very large Belt of Wampum.

Immediately one of the Chiefs of the Six Nations got up and made the following answer

Fathers

I mean you that call yourselves our Fathers. hear what I am going to say to you. you desire we may turn our Brothers the English away, and not suffer them to come and trade with us again. I now tell you from our Hearts we will not; for we ourselves brought them here to trade with us, and they shall live among us as long as there is one of us alive, you are always threatning our Brothers what you will do to them, and in particular to that Man (pointing to me) now if you have any thing to say to our Brothers tell it to him if you be a Man as you Frenchmen always say you are and the Head of all Nations. Our Brothers are the People we will trade with and not You. Go and tell your Governor to ask the Onondago

Council

Council if I dont speak the Minds of all the Six Nations and then returned the Belt.

May the 21st

I paid Cochawitchabe the old Shawonese King a Visit as he was rendered incapable of attending the Council by his great Age and let him know that his Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania was glad to hear that he was still alive and retained his Senses, and had ordered me to cloath him and to acquaint him that he had not forgot his antient Attachment to the English Interest I gave him a Stroud Shirt matchcoat and a pair of Stockings, for which he gave the Governor a great many thanks.

May the 22d

A Number of about forty of the Six Nations came up the River Ohio to Logstown to wait on the Council, as soon as they came to town they came to my House and after shaking Hands they told me they were glad to see me safe arrived in their Country after my long Journey.

May the 23d

Conajarca One of the Chiefs of the Six Nations and a Party with him from the Cuscushie came to Town to wait on the Council and congratulated me upon my safe arrival in their Country.

May the 24th

Some Warriors of the Delawares came to Town from the Lower

Shawonese

Shawonese Town and brought a Sculp with them, they brought an Account that the Southward Indians had come to the Lower Towns to War and had killed some of the Shawonese, Delaware and the Six Nations, so that we might not expect any People from there to the Council.

May the 25th

I had a Conference with Monsieur Joncaur he desired I would excuse him and not think hard of him for the Speech he made to the Indians, requesting them to turn the English Traders away and not to suffer them to trade, for it was the Governor of Canada's Orders to him, and he was obliged to obey them, altho' he was very sensible which way the Indians would receive them, for he was sure the French could not accomplish their Designs with the Six Nations without it could be done by Force, which he said he believed they would find to be as difficult as the Method they had just tryed and would not with the like Success.

May the 26th

A Duncan from the Colony of Virginia came to the Logs Town, and requested Liberty of the Six Nation Chiefs to make a Settlement on the River Yoghe, ys. gaine a Branch of Ohio, to which the Indians made answer that it was not in their Power to dispose of Lands, that he must apply to the Council at Onondago, and further told him that he did not take

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a right Method, for he should be first recommended by their Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania with whom all publick Business of that sort must be transacted before he need expect to succeed.

May the 27th.

Mr Montour and I had a Conference with the Chiefs of the Six Nations, when it was agreed upon that the following Speeches should be made to the Delawares, Shawonese, Owendats and Twightwees, when the Provincial Present should be delivered them in the Name of the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of Newcastle, Kent and Sussex, on Delaware in Conjunction with the Chiefs of the Six united nations on Ohio

A Treaty with the Indians of the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese, Owendats and Twightwees.

In the Logs Town on Ohio Thursday 28th May 1752.

Present

Thomas Kinton
Samuel Currens
Jacob Pyatt
John Owens
Thomas Ward
Joseph Nellson
James Brown
Dennis Sullavan
Paul Pearce
Caleb Lamb

} Indian Traders.

The

The Deputies of the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese, Owandats and Twightwees.

Mr Andrew Montour Interpreter for the Province of Pennsylvania.

Toanohiscoe ..... Interpreter for the Six Nations.

George Croghan made the following Speech to the several nations when they were met in Council in the Name of the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania.

Friends and Brethren

I am sent here by your Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania with this Present of Goods to renew the Friendships so long subsisting between us, and I present you those four Strings of Wampum to clear your Minds and open your Eyes and Ears that you may see the Sun clear and hear what your Brother is going to say to You

Gave 4 Strings of Wampum.

A Speech delivered the Delawares in Answer to the Speech they sent by Mr Weiser three Years ago to his Honour the Governor to acquaint him of the Death of their Chief King Oulamopes.

by George Croghan

Brethren the Delawares,

Three Years ago some of the Chiefs of your nation sent me a message by Mr Weiser to acquaint me of the Death of your King

King, a Man well beloved by his Brethren the English, you told Mr Weiser that you intended to visit me, in order to consult about a new Chief, but you never did it - I have ever since condoled with you for the Loss of so good a Man, and considering the lamentable Condition you were in for want of a Chief - I present you this Belt of Wampum and this Present to wipe away your Tears and I desire you may choose amongst yourselves one of your wisest Counsellors and present to your Brethren the Six Nations and me for a Chief, and he so chosen by you shall be looked upon by us as your King with whom publick Business shall be transacted. Brethren to inforce this on your Minds I present you this Belt of Wampum.

Gave a Belt of Wampum.

Which was received with the Go'hah.

A Speech delivered the Shawonese from the Honourable James Hamilton Governor of Pennsylvania.

by George Croghan

Brethren the Shawonese

Three Years ago when some of your Chiefs and some Chiefs of the Six Nations came down to Lancaster with our Brethren the Twightwees they informed me that your People that went away with Peter Chartier was coming back and since that I hear that Part of them are returned. I am glad to hear that they are coming home to you again, that you may become once more a People and not as you were dispersed thro' the World. I do not blame you for what happened, for the wisest of People sometimes make mistakes, it was the French that the Indians call their Fathers

that

that deceived you and scattered you about the Woods, that they might have it in their Power to keep you poor. Brethren I assure you by this Present that I am fully reconciled and have forgot any thing that you have done, and I hope for the future there will be a more free and open Correspondence between us, and now your Brethren the Six nations join with me to remove any misunderstanding that should have happened between us, that we may henceforth spend the remainder of our days together in Brotherly Love and Friendship Now that this Speech which your Brothers the Six Nations join with me in may have its full Force on your Minds, I present you this Belt of Wampum.

Gave a Belt of Wampum
Which was received with the Go'hah

A Speech delivered the Onondats from the Honorable James Hamilton Governor of Pennsylvania.
by George Croghan

Brethren the Onondats

I received a message by the Six nations and another by Mr. montour from You, by both which I understand the French whom the Indians call their Fathers won't let you rest in your Towns in Peace but constantly threaten to cut you off. how comes this? Are you not a free and independant People, and have you not a right to live

where

where you please on your own Land, and trade with whom you please: Your Brethren the English always considered you as a free nation, and I think the French who attempt to infringe on your Libertys should be opposed by one and all the Indians, or any other Nations that should undertake such unjust Proceedings ~

Brethren I am sorry to hear of your troubles, and I hope you and your Brethren the Six Nations will let the French know that you are a free People, and will not be imposed on by them ~ So assure you that I have your troubles much at Heart, I present you this Belt and this Present of Goods to cloathe your Familys.

Gave a Belt of Wampum.

Which was received with the Yo'hah.

A Speech delivered the Twightwees from the Honourable James Hamilton Esqure Governor of Pennsylvania by George Croghan.

Brethren the Twightwees

As you are an antient and renowned Nation I was well pleased when you sent your Deputies now three Years ago to solicit our Alliance, nor did we hesitate to grant you your Request, as it came so warmly recommended to us by our Brethren the six nations, Delawares and Shawonese. at your further Request we ordered our Traders to go amongst you, and supply you with Goods at as reasonable Rates as they could afford, we understand that in obedience to our Commands, our Traders have given you full Satisfaction to your Request ~ In one of your Towns about three

months

Months ago, Mr George Croghan likewise informs us that some more of your Tribes earnestly requested to become our Allies, he and Mr montour did receive a Writing from You — certifying such your Request, and containing your — Promises of Fidelity and Friendship which we have seen and approve of. Brethren We have recommended it to our Brethren the Six Nations, to give you their advice how you should behave in your new alliance with us, and we expect that you will follow it, that the Friendship now subsisting between us, the Six Nations, Delaware, Shawonese, Onondats and you, may become as strong as a great — mountain, which the Winds constantly blow against, but never overset. Brethren to assure you of our hearty — Inclination towards you, I make you this Present of Goods, and that this Speech which I make you now in conjunction with the Six Nations may have its full Force on your — minds I present you this Belt of Wampum

Gave a Belt

Which was received with the Yo'hah.

A Speech made to the Six United Nations by George Croghan in behalf of the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire — Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania.

Brethren the Six Nations hear what I am going to say to you Brethren it is a great while since We your Brothers the English

English first came over the great Water (meaning the Sea) as soon as our Ship struck the Land, You the Six Nations took hold of her and tyed her to the Bushes, and for fear the Bushes would not be strong enough to hold her, you removed the Rope and tyed it about a great Tree, then fearing the Winds would blow the Tree down you removed the Rope and tyed it about a great mountain in the Country (meaning the Onondago Country) and since that time we have lived in true Brotherly Love and Friendship together; now Brethren since that, there are several Nations joined in Friendship with you and us, and of late our Brethren the Twightwees. Now Brethren as you are the Head of all the Nations of Indians, I warmly recommend it to You to give our Brethren the Twightwees your best advice, that they may know how to behave in their new alliance, and likewise I give our Brethren the Owendats in charge to you, that you may strengthen them to withstand their Enemies the French, whom I understand treats them more like Enemies than Children, tho' they call themselves their Father.

Brethren I hope we your Brothers the English and You the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese, Owendats and Twightwees will continue in such Brotherly Love and Friendship, that it will be as strong as that Mountain to which you tyed our Ship. Now Brethren I am informed by George Croghan that the French obstruct my Traders, and carry away their Persons and Goods, and are guilty of many outrageous Practices, whereby the Roads are rendered unsafe to travel in, nor can we ask our Traders to go

amongst

amongst you, whilst their Lives and Effects are in such great Danger - How comes this to pass, dont this proceed from the Pride of Onontio, whom the Indians call their Father, because they dont see his ill designs, the strong Houses you gave him Leave to erect on your Lands, serve (as your Brethren the English always told you) to impoverish you and keep your Wives and Children always naked, by keeping the English Traders at a distance, the French well knowing the English sell their Goods cheaper than they can afford, and I can assure You Onontio will never rest whilst an English Trader comes to Ohio, and indeed if you do not open your Eyes and put a Stop to his Proceedings he will gain his Ends - Brethren I hope you will consider well what Onontio means or is about to do, to inforce what I have been saying to you on your Minds I present you this Belt of Wampum

Gave a Belt

They received this Belt with Yo-hah ——

The Speaker of the Six Nations made the following Speech to Monsieur Joncaur in open Council, he spoke very quick and sharp with the air of a Warrior

Father

How comes it that you have broke the general Peace, is it not three years since you as well as our Brothers the English told us that there was Peace between the English and

French

French, and how comes it that you have taken our Brothers as your Prisoners on our Lands, is it not our Land (Stamping on the Ground and putting his Finger to Joncaeur's Nose) what right has Onontio to our Lands, I desire you may go home directly off our Lands, and tell Onontio to send Us Word immediately, what was his reason for using our Brothers so, or what he means by such Proceedings that We may know what to do, for I can assure Onontio that We the Six Nations will not take such usage you hear what I say and that is the Sentiments of all our Nations, tell it to Onontio, that that is what the Six Nations said to you.

Gave 4 Strings of black Wampum.

After which the Chief of the Indians ordered the Goods to be divided and appointed some of each Nation to stand by and see it done, that those that were absent might have a sufficient Share laid by for them.—

After which the Chiefs made me a Speech and told me it was a Custome with their Brothers whenever they went to Council to— have their Guns, Hewles and Hatchets mended, and desired I might order that done, for they could not go home till they had that done, as Mr Montour and I agreed to comply with their— Request, and ordered it done that they might depart well— satisfied.—

May

14

May 29th 1751

Present

Samuel Curzens
John Owens
Jacob Pyatt
Thomas Ward
Joseph Nellon
James Brown
Dennis Sullivan
} Indian Traders

The Chiefs of the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese and Owendats.

Mr Andrew Montour Interpreter

The Beaver the Speaker of the Delawares made the following Speech in answer to the Speech made them yesterday.

Brethren directing his Speech to the Governour of Pennsylvania,

We heard what you said to us yesterday, we thank you for considering our lamentable Condition for Want of a Chief, it is true what you told us we have been like People in the dark, not knowing where to go nor what to do. Now Brother our Hearts are glad, for you have opened our Eyes that we may see the Sun clear, and you have directed us how to behave, it is good, we will be directed by you our Brothers and do what you bid us, and to assure you our Hearts are ready to receive your advice we send you these two Strings of Wampum.

Gave two Strings.

He added that as all their Wise Men were not gathered together, it would take some time to consider on a man that was fit to undertake to rule a nation of People, but as soon as possible they would make a full answer which they hoped would give Satisfaction to their Brothers the English and the Six Nations.

A Speech received from the Shawonese in answer to the Speech delivered them Yesterday.

Kieshequeatama Speaker

Brethren directing his Speech to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

We the Shawonese return you our hearty thanks for the kind Speech you made yesterday, you have now washed our Eyes and opened our Ears, that we may see the Sun clear and hear what you our Brothers will at any time say to us, and we assure you our Brothers the English our Hearts are all good and true towards you, and we will be ready and willing at any time to hear what you say to us, and will take your advice only, and to assure you of the Truth of what we say we send you these three Strings of Wampum.

Gave three Strings.

A Speech received from the Chiefs of the several nations, one of the Six Nations Speaker in answer to the Speeches sent them last Winter by the Governor of Virginia and delivered them by Mr Christopher Guest.

Brethren directing their Discourse to the Governor of Virginia.

We received your Messages by your Messenger Mr Guest letting us know that our great Father beyond the Seas not

forgetting

forgetting us his Children on this Side the great Water, has sent a Present of Goods to your Care for us, we all return you our hearty thanks for your care in sending us Word so soon as you did. Now Brother we expect you will consider that we are a poor People and at War with the Southward Indians, and dont know but some of our Nations may soon be struck by the French, so that it is not in our Power to go down to hear what our great Father has to say to us. But our Brothers of Pennsylvania have kindled a Council Fire here, and we expect you will send our Fathers Speeches to us here, for we long to hear what our Great Father the King of Great Britain has to say to us his poor Children. Brother that this Speech may have its full Effect on your Mind we send you these four Strings of Wampum.

Gave 4 Strings

A Speech made by the Commissioners of the Owendats sent to the Council by that Nation to receive what Speeches their Brothers the English had brought them.

The Great Arrow Speaker

Brothers We have heard what you said yesterday to our Nation, we return you our hearty thanks for the Care of us and our People, but as we are not impowered to give a full Answer, we desire to be excused at this time, but upon our Return home, we will call a Council, and

then

then our Brothers may expect a suitable answer to the kind Speeches they have sent us. I hope our Brother the Governor will accept these four Strings of Wampum till they get a fuller answer —

Gave four Strings.

After which received from the Six Nations the Speaker directed his Discourse to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

Sawago
Conajarca
Sorasoughtho
Connestrahw
Contiughgau
} Six nation Chiefs

Scanohiso Speaker

Brother

We your Brethren the Six Nations have heard what you said to us yesterday, we thank you for your good advice, and you may depend on our giving our new Brethren the Twightwees our best advice, and we will have them and the Owendats always under our Eyes, as well as the Delawares and Shawonese, that we may all become as one People, which is the Way to be as strong on Ohio, as that mountain which you mention in your Speech which is the Onondago Country —

Brother as to what you mention of the Traders being taken by the French, We your Brethren the Six Nations have a true Sense of the ill Usage you have received from the French and

We

We can assure you we will take a method to oblige the French to make Satisfaction - Brother We have discharged the French from amongst us, and told them that they should not build upon our Land - Now Brothers We have been considering what the French mean by their Behaviour, and believe they want to cheat us out of our Country, but we will stop them and Brother you must help us, we expect that you our Brother will build a strong House on the River Ohio, that if we should be obliged to engage in a War, that We should have a Place to secure our Wives and Children, likewise to secure our Brothers that come to trade with us, for without our Brothers supply us with Goods we cannot live, now Brothers we will take two months to consider and choose out a Place fit for that Purpose, and then We will send you word. We hope Brothers as soon as you receive our Message, you will order such a House to be built - Brothers that you may consider well the Necessity of building such a Place of Security to strengthen our Arms, and that this our first Request of that kind may have a good Effect on your minds we send you this Belt of Wampum.

Gave a Belt.

A Speech made by the Six Nations in Behalf of the Twightwees as none of them were present.

Brethren

We your Brothers the Six Nations received your Message to the Twightwees and the Present, which We assure You we will deliver them safe, and We will join you and make a Speech to them to let them understand that We will put our Hands on their Heads, so that if any Nation strikes them, our Fingers must be first cut off before they are hurt. We hope this Speech with the Present will have its desired Effect on the Minds of our new Brethren so that we may all become united as one People.

Gave two Strings of Wampum.

May the 30th

I took my Leave of the Chiefs of the several Nations when I made each of them some small Presents reserved for that Purpose by Mr Montour and myself, they wished me a good Journey home and desired they might be remembred to their Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania and all the wise Counsellors and desired me to assure them that they would always observe what their Brothers the English would tell them.

George Croghan

Twenty Sixth June 1751.

A true Copy

Richard Peters
Sec of the Commiss

Journal of Mr. Croghan to Ohio

May the 18th. 1751

Arrived at the Logs Town on Ohio with the Provincial Presents from the Province of Pennsylvania where I was received by a great number of the six Nations, Delawares and Shawanese that were encamped near the Town

Town to be there ready to meet me and took me by the hand bidding me welcome to their Country.

May the 19th

One of the six Nations that lives on the Head of Ohio came to the Town to the Council, he immediately came to visit me and told me he was glad to see a messenger from his Brother Onas on the Waters of Ohio.

May 20th

Forty Warriors of the Six Nations came to Town from the Heads of Ohio with Mr. Joncaur and one Frenchman more in Company.

May the 21st

Mr. Joncaur the French Interpreter called a Council with all the Indians then present in the Town and made the following Speech

Children

I desire you may now give me an answer from your hearts to the Speech Monsieur Celeron (the Commander of the Party of Two Hundred Frenchmen that went down the River two Years ago) made to you

you. His Speech was That their Father the Governor of Canada desired his Children on Ohio to turn away the English Traders from amongst them, and to discharge them from ever coming to trade there again or on any of the Branches, on pain of incurring his displeasure and to expect that Speech he gave them a very large Belt of Wampum.

Immediately one of the Chiefs of the Six Nations got up and made the following Answer

Father:

I mean you that call yourselves our Fathers hear what I am going to say to you. You desire we may turn our Brothers the English away, and not suffer them to come and trade with us again. I now tell you from our Hearts we will not, for we ourselves brought them here to trade with us, and they shall live amongst us as long as there is one of us alive, you are always treating our Brothers that you will not have them, and in particular to that man (pointing to me) nor if you have anything to say to our Brothers tell it to him if you be a man, as you Englishmen always say you are and the Head of all Nations – Our Brothers are the people we will trade with and not you – Grand tell your Governor to call the Standing Council if I dont speak the Minds of all the Six Nations and then returned the Belt.

May 21.

Spaid Cachamichake the old Shawanese King of Peil, as he was rendered incapable of attending the Council by his great Age, and let him know that his Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania was glad to hear that he was still alive and retained his senses, and had ordered me to clothe him and to acquaint him

that

that he had not forgot his ancient attachment to the English Interest. I gave him a Scarlet Shirt, matchcoat and a pair of stockings, for which he gave the governor a great many thanks.

. May the 22d

A number of about forty of the Six nations came up the River Chie to Scaplom. to wait on the Council as soon as they came to town, and after shaking hands they told us they were glad to see us safe arrived in their Country after my long journey.

. May the 23d

Conajeera one of the Chiefs of the Six nations with a Party with him from the Cascakies came to Town to wait on the Council, and congratulated me upon my safe Arrival in their Country.

. May the 24th

Some Warriors of the Delawares came to Town from the lower Shawanese Town, and brought a Scalp with them, they brought an account that the Southward Indians had come to the lower Towns to War and had killed some of the Shawanese, Delaware, and the Six Nations, so that we might not expect any People from them to the Council.

. May the 25th

I had a Conference with Monsieur Joncaar he desired I would excuse him and not think hard of him for the Speech he made to the Indians requesting them to return the English Goods away and not to suffer them to trade for it was the Governor of Canadas Orders to him, and he was oblig to obey them also he was very sensible which way the Indians would receive them, for he was sure the French could not accomplish their designs

with

with the six nations without it could be done by force, which he saw he believed they would find to be as difficult as the method they had just tried and would meet with the like success.

May the 26th

A Dunker from the Colony of Virginia came to the Logstown and requested Liberty of the six Nation Chiefs to make a Settlement on the River Ioghiogane, gave a Branch of Ohio to which the Indians made answer that it was not in their Power to dispose of Lands that he must apply to the Council at Onondago, and further told him that he did not take a right method, for he should be first recommended by their Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania with whom all publick Business of that sort must be enacted before he need expect to succeed.

May the 27th

Mr. Hunter and I had a Conference with the Chiefs of the Six Nations, when it was agreed upon that the following Speeches should be made to the Delawares, Shawonese, Mingoes and Twightwees when the Provincial Present should be delivered them in the Name of the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of Newcastle, Kent and Sussex, on Delaware in Conjunction with the Chiefs of the Six United Nations on Ohio.

A Treaty

A Treaty with the Indians of the six nations Delawares Shawanese, Onondats and Twightwees.

At the Logs Town on Ohio Thursday 28th May 1752.

PRESENT

Thomas Hutton	Joseph Nelson	Indian Traders
Samuel Curzens	Jamal Brown	
Jacob Lyall	Dennis Sullavan	
John Evens	Paul Pearce	
Thomas Bland	Caleb Swift	

The Deputies of the six nations, Delawares, Shawanese, Onondats and Twightwees.

Mr Andrew Montour Interpreter for the Province of Pennsylvania

Francisco Interpreter for the Six nations.

George Croghan made the following Speech to the several nations when they were met in Council in the Name of the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania.

Friends & Brethren

I am sent here by your Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania with this Present of Goods to renew the Friendship so long subsisting between us and I present you these four Strings of Wampum to clear your Eyes and open your Eyes and Ears that you may see the Sun clear and hear what your Brother is going to say to you.

Gave 4 Strings of Wampum.

A Speech delivered the Delawares in answer to the Speech they sent by Mr Weiser three years ago to his Honour the Governor to

acquaint

acquaint him of the Death of their Chief King Oulamoyes
by George Croghan

Brethren the Delawares

Three years ago some of the Chiefs of your Nation sent
over to King by Mr Wesser to acquaint me of the Death of your
King, a man well beloved by his Brethren the English. You told
Mr Wesser that you intended to visit me in order to consult about
a new Chief, but you never did it. I have ever since condoled with
you for the Loss of so good a man, and considering the lamentable
condition you were in for want of a Chief. I present you this Belt of
Wampum and this Present to wipe away your Tears, and I desire
you may choose amongst yourselves one of your wisest Counsellors
and present to your Brethren the Six Nations and me for a Chief,
and he so chosen by you shall be looked upon by us as your King
with whom publick Business shall be transacted. Brethren to
enforce this on your minds I present you this Belt of Wampum

Gave a Belt of Wampum.

which was received with the usual

A Speech delivered the Shawanese from the Honourable
James Hamilton Governor of Pennsylvania

by George Croghan

Brethren the Shawanese

Three years ago when some of your Chiefs and some
Chiefs of the Six Nations came down to Lancaster with our Brethren
the Twightwees they informed me that your People that went away
with Peter Chartiere was coming back and since that I hear that part
of them are returned. I am glad to hear that they are coming home
to you again that you may become once more a People and not as

you

you are dispersed thro the World. I do not blame you fo
for the most of People sometimes make mistakes. it was the French that the
Indians call their Fathers that deceived you and led astray you about
the Lands that they might have it in their Power to keep you poor
Brethren I speak to you by this present that I am fully reconciled and
have forgot anything that you have done and I hope for the future
there will be more free and open Correspondence between us and our
Great Father the six nations, join with me to remove any misunderstand
ing that might have happened between us that we may hereafter
spend the remainder of our days together in Brotherly Love and
Friendship. Now that this Speech which your Brethren the six nations
have given me may have its full force on your minds I present you
this Belt of Wampum

Gave a Belt of Wampum
which was received with the Yohah

I. I Speech delivered the Cornplanter from the Honorable James Hamilton
Governor of Pennsylvania

By George Croghan

Brethren the Cornplanter

I received a message by the Six nations and another by Mr Hunter
from you by both which I understand the French whom the Indians call their
Fathers want to get you not in your Towns in Peace but constantly threaten
to set you off how come this? are you not a free and independent People
and have you not a right to live where & you please or on your own Land and
trade with whom you please - Your Brethren the English always consider
you as a free Nation and I think the French who attempt to infringe on
your Liberty's should be opposed by one and all the Indians or any other
Nations that should undertake such unjust Proceedings Brethren I am
sorry

any Cause of your trouble and Hope you and your Brethren the
Six Nations will let the French know that you are a free People
and will not be imposed on by them, to assure you that I have your
Trouble much at heart I present you this Belt and the Bearer of
Yours to clear your Pathes

Gave a Belt of Wampum

Which was received with the Goshoh

A Speech delivered the Shawanese from the Honourable Thomas
Hamilton Esquire Governor of Pensylvania

by George Croghan

Brethren of the Shawanese

We are ancient and renowned Nation & are well
pleased when we see your Deputies now here Governor &
Council our Allies are ready to grant you your request
& have accordingly recommended to you by your Brethren the Six
Nations Delawares and Shawanese - at your further Request we
order our Traders to go amongst you and supply you with Goods at
as reasonable rates as they could afford we understand that in
obedience to our Commands our Traders have given you full
Satisfaction to your Request - In one of your Towns about three
months ago the Honble George Croghan Esquire informed that some
more of your Tribes earnestly requested to become our Allies he and
they soon after did receive a Writeing from you certifying such
your Request, and containing your Promises of Fidelity and
Friendship which We have seen and approve of - Brethren
We have recommended it to our Brethren the Six Nations to give
you their advice how you should behave in your new Alliance

with

with us, and we expect that you will follow it, that the
covenant chain between us the Six Nations Delawares Shawanese
Mohawks and you may become as strong as a great Mountain
which the Devil can tumble down but never owrcome - Brethren
I shall give you a few heavy admonitions towards you I make you this present
of Peace and that the Speech which I make you now in Conjunction
with the Six Nations may have its full force on your minds I present you
this belt of Wampum

Gave a Belt

A belt of Wampum with the Speech

A Speech made to the Six United Nations by George Croghan in behalf
of the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Governor of the Province of
Pennsylvania.

Brethren the Six Nations have sent Jaw going to say to you
Brethren it is a great while since we & you Brethren the English first
came over the great Water (meaning the Sea) as soon as our Ship struck
the Land Your the Six Nations took hold of her and kept her to the Bank
and for fear the Rocks would not be strong enough to hold her, you
removed the Rope and tyed it about a great Tree, then fearing the
Wind would blow the Tree down you removed the Rope and tyed it
about a great Mountain in the Country (meaning the Onondago
Country) and since that time we have lived in true Brotherly Love and
Friendship together. Now Brethren since that, there are several Nations
joined in Friendship with you and the rest of late our Brethren the
Swightwees - Now Brethren as you are the Head of all the Nations of
Indians I warmly recommend it to you to give our Brethren the
Swightwees your best advice that they may know how to behave in their

now

and likewise I give our Brethren the Onondaes in
charge to you that you may strengthen them to withstand their
Enemie the French, whom I understand treats them more like
Enemie than Children, tho they call themselves their Father.
Brethren, I hope we your Brethren the English and you the Six
Nations Delawares Shawanese, Onondaes and Neighbours will
continue in a strict Brotherly Love and Friendship that it will be as
easy as what it was before you ever saw our Ships — Now
Brethren I am informed by George Croghan that the French stirred
up against us, and carry away their Furrs and Goods and are
guilty of many outrageous Practices, whereby the Traders are
robbed and many Murdered on, no one knows but Indians, I say
amongst you whilst their Love and Effects continued great
Danger — How comes this to pass? Don't this proceed from the
Side of Onondio when the Indians call their Father because
they do as he bid? Does the strong House you gave him
here to meet on your Lands mean (as your Brethren the English
always told you) to keep you with you and keep your Children and
Children always what by keeping the English Traders at a
distance the French will be among the English sell their Goods
cheaper than they can afford and I can assure you Onondio
will never rest while an English Trader comes to Ohio and
indeed if you dont open your Eyes and put a Stop to his
Proceedings he will gain his ends.
Brethren I hope you will consider well what Onondio means
is about to do, to inforce what I have been saying to you on your
Words I present you this Belt of Wampum

Gave a Belt

They received this Belt with G: thah

The

The Speaker of the Six Nations made the following Answer in open Council in spoke very quick and sharp which was as follows

Father

How comes it that you have broken the General Peace it is not three Years since you as well as our Brethren the English told us that there was Peace between the English and French, and how comes it that you have taken our Brothers as your Prisoners on our Land is it not our Land (Stamping on the ground and putting his Finger to several times) what right has Onontio to our Lands I desire you may go home directly off our Lands and tell Onontio to send us here immediately what was his reason for using our Brothers so or what he meant by such Proceedings that we may know what to do for Sean after Onontio that is the Six Nations will not take such usage you hear what I say and that is the Sentiments of all our Nations will it be Onontio that that is what the Six Nations said to you

Gave 4 Strings black Wampum

after which the Chief of the Indians ordered the Goods to be divided and appointed some of each Nation to stand by to see it done that those that were absent might have a sufficient Share laid by for them.

After which the Chiefs made me a Speech and told me it was a Custom with their Brethren whenever they went to Council to have their Guns Kettles and Hatchets mended, and desired I might order that done for they could not go home till they had that done so I Monsieur and I agreed to comply with their Request and ordered it done, that they might depart well satisfied.

May

May 29th 1751
Present

Samuel Chilloways — Joseph Sellom
John Owens — James Brown
Jacob Pyott — Dennis Sullivan
Nanticokes — } Indian Traders

The Chiefs of the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese & Twightwees.
Mr Andrew Montour Interpreter

The Orator the Speaker of the Delawares made the following Speech in answer to the Speech made them Yesterday

Brethren in Answering his Speech to the Governor of Pensylvania

We have heard what you said to us Yesterday, we thank you for considering our lamentable Condition for want of a Chief it is true what you told us we have been like People in the dark not knowing where to go nor what to do. Now Brother our Hearts are glad for you have opened our Eyes that we may see the Sun clear and you have directed us how to behave. it is good we will be directed by you our Brethren and do what you bidus and to assure you our Hearts are ready to receive your advice we send you these two Strings of Wampum

Gave two Strings

He added that as all their wise Men were not gathered together it would take some time to consider on a Man that was fit to undertake to Rule a Nation of People but as soon as possible they would make a full Answer which they hoped would give Satisfaction to their Brethren the English and the Six Nations.

A Speech

A Speech received from the Shawanese in answer to the Speech delivered them yesterday.

Weisheguenama Speaker

Brethren directing his Speech to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

We the Shawanese return you our hearty thanks for the kind Speech you made yesterday you have now washed our Eyes and opened our Ears that we may see the Sun clear and hear what you our Brother will at any time say to us and we assure you our Brother the English our Hearts are all good and true towards you and we will be ready and willing at any time to hear what you say to us and will take your advice only and to assure you of the truth of what we say we send you these three Strings of Wampum

Three Strings

A Speech received from the chiefs of the several Nations one of the Six Nations Speaker in answer to the Speeches sent them last Winter by the Governor of Virginia and delivered them by Mr Christopher Gist.

Brethren directing their Discourse to the Governor of Virginia.

We received your Messages by your Messenger Mr Gist letting us know that our great Father beyond the Seas not forgetting us his Children on this Side the great Water has sent a Present of Goods to your Care for us we all return you our hearty Thanks for your care in sending us word so soon as you did. Now Brother we expect you will

will consider that we are a poor People and at War with the Southward Indians and dont know but some of our Nations may soon be struck by the French so that it is not in our Power to go down to hear what our Great Father has to say to us But our Brethren of Pennsylvania have kindled a Council Fire here and we expect you will send our Fathers Speeches to us here for we long to hear what our Great Father the King of Great Britain has to say to us his poor Children. Brother that this Speech may have its full Effect on your mind we send you these four Strings of Wampum

Gave 4 Strings

A Speech made by the Commissioners of the Onondals sent to the Council by that Nation to receive what Speeches their Brethren the English had brought them

The Great Onon Speaker

Brethren We have heard what you said yesterday to our Nation We return you our heavy thanks for the Care of us and our People but as we are not impowered to give a full answer we desire to be excused at this time - But upon our return home we will call a Council, and then our Brethren may expect a suitable answer to the kind Speeches they have sent us I hope our Brother the Governor will accept these four Strings of Wampum till they get a fuller answer

Gave four Strings

. I Spuch received from the Six Nations the Speaker directed his discours to the Governor of Pennsylvania

Jaurago Longiara Jonaseughko Conolsraghe Conenghqua	Six Nation Chiefs
Joanohiso	Speaker

Brother

We your Brethren the Six Nations have heard what you said to us yesterday we thank you for your good advice and you may depend on our giving our new Brethren the Twightwees our best advice and we will have them and the Owendats always under our Eyes as well as the Delawares and Shawonese that we may all become as one People which is the way to be as strong on Ohio as that mountain which you mention in your Speech which is the Onondago Country.

Brother as to what you mention of the Traders being taken by the French We your Brethren the Six Nations have a true sense of the ill usage you have received from the French, and we can assure you we will take a method to oblige the French to make Satisfaction —

Brother we have discharged the French from amongst us and told them that they should not build upon our Land — Now Brother we have been considering what the French mean by their Behaviour and believe they want to cheat us out of our Country but we will stop them and Brother you must help us, we expect that you our Brother will build a strong House on the River Ohio, that if we should be obliged to engage in a War that we should have a Place to secure our Wives and Children, likewise to secure our Brothers that

come

come to trade with us; for without our Brothers supply us with Goods we cannot live — Now Brothers we will take two months to consider and choose out a Place fit for that Purpose and then he will send you word. We hope Brothers as soon as you receive our Message you will order such a House to be built. Brothers that you may consider well the necessity of building such a Place of Security to strengthen our Arms and that this our first request of that kind may have a good effect on your Minds we give you this Belt of Wampum

Gave a Belt

A Speech made by the Six Nations in Behalf of the Twightwees as most of them were present

Brethren

We your Brothers the Six Nations received your Message to the Twightwees and the Present which We assure you we will deliver them safe and we will join you and make a Speech to them to let them understand that we will put our Hands on their Heads so that if any Nation strike them our Fingers must be first cut off before they are hurt — we hope this Speech with the Present will have its desired Effect on the Minds of our new Brethren so that we may all become united as one People

Gave two Strings of Wampum

May the 30th. I took my leave of the Chiefs of the several Nations when I made each of them some small Presents reserved for that Purpose by my Honour and myself, they wished me a good Journey home and desired they might be remembered to their Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania and all the wise Counsellors and desired me to assure them that they would always observe what their Brothers the English would tell them.

Proceedings of George Croghan, Esquire, and Mr. Andrew Montour at Ohio, in the Execution of the Governor's Instructions to Deliver the Provincial Present to the several Tribes of Indians settled there:[21]

May the 18th, 1751.—I arrived at the Log's Town on Ohio with the Provincial Present from the Province of Pennsylvania, where I was received by a great number of the Six Nations, Delawares, and Shawonese, in a very complaisant manner in their way, by firing Guns and Hoisting the English Colours. As soon as I came to the shore their Chiefs met me and took me by the Hand bidding me welcome to their Country.

May the 19th.— One of the Six Nation Kings from the Head of Ohio came to the Logstown to the Council, he immediately came to visit me, and told me he was glad to see a Messenger from his Brother Onas on the waters of the Ohio.

May the 20th.—Forty Warriors of the Six Nations

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[21]This document is reprinted from *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, v, pp. 530-536; a portion of it is also to be found in Craig, *The Olden Time* (Pittsburg, 1846), i, p. 136, and a reprint in *Early History of Western Pennsylvania*, app., pp. 26-34. As the result of Croghan's Western journey during the winter of 1750-51, and the desire of Pennsylvania to maintain its trade relations with the Ohio Indians, the Assembly voted £700 to be employed in presents; and the governor instructed Croghan and Montour to deliver the goods.—See *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, v, pp. 487, 518, 525, and Croghan's account, *post*. The adroitness with which Croghan outwitted the French officer and interpreter Joncaire, and his influence over the chiefs on the Ohio, as well as the susceptibility of the Indian nature to the influence of material goods, are all exemplified in this narrative. It did not result, however, as Croghan and the governor wished, in inducing the Pennsylvania authorities to construct a fort on the Ohio. The beginnings of that enterprise were left to the Virginians, but too late to secure the Forks of the Ohio from being seized by the French.— Ed.

came to Town from the Heads of Ohio, with Mr. Ioncoeur and one Frenchman more in company.

May the 21st, 1751.—Mr. Ioncoeur, the French Interpreter, called a council with all the Indians then present in the Town, and made the following Speech:

"CHILDREN: I desire you may now give me an answer from your hearts to the Speech Monsieur Celeron (the Commander of the Party of Two Hundred Frenchmen that went down the River two Years ago) made to you.[22] His Speech was, That their Father the Governor of Canada desired his Children on Ohio to turn away the English Traders from amongst them, and discharge them from ever coming to trade there again, or on any of the Branches, on Pain of incurring his Displeasure, and to enforce that Speech he gave them a very large Belt of Wampum. Immediately one of the Chiefs of the Six Nations get up and made the following answer:

"FATHERS: I mean you that call yourselves our Fathers, hear what I am going to say to you. You desire we may turn our Brothers the English away, and not suffer them to come and trade with us again; I now tell you from our Hearts we will not, for we ourselves brought them here to trade with us, and they shall live amongst

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[22] The commandant of this famous expedition (1749) was Pierre Joseph Céloron, Sieur de Blainville, born in 1693, and having served a long apprenticeship in the posts of the upper country. He commanded an invasion of the Chickasaw country (1739), and had charge of the post at Detroit in 1742-43, and again in 1750-54. Fort Niagara was entrusted to him in 1744-47, whence he was transferred to Crown Point, until his Ohio expedition took place. In the French and Indian War he held the rank of major, and served on the staff of the commander-in-chief. He died about 1777. In 1760, the Canadian authorities characterized him as "poor and brave." Some question has arisen, whether the leader of this expedition might not have been a younger brother, Jean Baptiste. For Croghan's visit to the Ohio directly after Céloron's expedition had passed, see *post*; also, *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, v, p. 387, and *Pennsylvania Archives*, ii, p. 31.— ED.

us as long as there is one of us alive. You are always threatning our Brothers what you will do to them, and in particular to that man (pointing to me); now if you have anything to say to our Brothers tell it to him if you be a man, as you Frenchmen always say you are, and the Head of all Nations. Our Brothers are the People we will trade with, and not you. Go and tell your Governor to ask the Onondago Council If I don't speak the minds of all the Six Nations;"[23] and then [he] returned the Belt.

I paid Cochawitchake the old Shawonese King a visit, as he was rendered incapable of attending the Council by his great age, and let him know that his Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania was glad to hear that he was still alive and retained his senses, and had ordered me to cloathe him and to acquaint him that he had not forgot his strict Attachment to the English Interest. I gave him a Strowd Shirt, Match Coat, and a pair of Stockings, for which he gave the Governor a great many thanks.

May the 22d.— A number of about forty of the Six Nations came up the River Ohio to Logstown to wait on the Council; as soon as they came to Town they came to my House, and after shaking Hands they told me they were glad to see me safe arrived in their Country after my long Journey.

May the 23d.— Conajarca, one of the Chiefs of the Six Nations, and a Party with him from the Cuscuskie, came to Town to wait on the Council, and congratulated me upon my safe arrival in their Country.

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[23] The Onondaga Council was the chief governing body of the Six Nations, or Iroquois, and since this confederacy assumed supremacy over the Ohio Indians, it was the chief centre of Indian diplomacy. The council house was situated on the site of the present town of Onondaga, New York, and was about eighty feet long, with broad seats arranged on each side. For an early description see Bartram, *Observations, etc.* (London, 1751), pp. 40, 41.— Ed.

May the 24th.— Some Warriors of the Delawares came to Town from the Lower Shawonese Town, and brought a Scalp with them; they brought an Account that the Southward Indians had come to the Lower Towns to War, and had killed some of the Shawonese, Delawares, and the Six Nations, so that we might not expect any People from there to the Council.

May the 25th.— I had a conference with Monsieur Ioncoeur; he desired I would excuse him and not think hard of him for the Speech he made to the Indians requesting them to turn the English Traders away and not suffer them to trade, for it was the Governor of Canada's Orders[24] to him, and he was obliged to obey them altho' he was very sensible which way the Indians would receive them, for he was sure the French could not accomplish their designs with the Six Nations without it could be done by Force, which he said he believed they would find to be as difficult as the method they had just tryed, and would meet with the like success.

May the 26th.— A Dunkar from the Colony of Virginia came to the Log's Town and requested Liberty of the Six Nation Chiefs to make [a settlement] on the River Yogh-yo-gaine a branch of Ohio, to which the Indians made answer that it was not in their Power to dispose of Lands; that he must apply to the Council at Onondago,

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[24] Galissonière, the governor of Canada, who planned Céloron's expedition to the Ohio, was superseded in the autumn of 1749 by Jacques Pierre de Taffanel, Marquis de la Jonquière, who continued the policy of the former; he sent orders to the commandants of the Western posts to arrest all British subjects found in the Ohio Valley. La Jonquière, who was born in 1686, had served in the French navy with distinction, and after his first commission as governor of New France was captured by an English vessel (1747), and kept a prisoner for more than a year, so that he did not reach his post until 1749. His term of service was but two years and a half, being terminated by his death in May, 1752.— Ed.

and further told him that he did not take a right method, for he should be first recommended by their Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania, with whom all Publick Business of that sort must be transacted before he need expect to succeed.[25]

May the 27th.— Mr Montour and I had a Conference with the Chiefs of the Six Nations, when it was agreed upon that the following Speeches should be made to the Delawares, Shawonese, Owendatts and Twightwees, when the Provincial Present should be delivered them in the Name of the Honourable James Hamilton, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware, in Conjunction with the Chiefs of the Six United Nations On Ohio:

A Treaty with the Indians of the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese, Owendatts and Twightwees.

In the Log's Town on Ohio,
Thursday the 28th May, 1751.

Present:

Thomas Kinton,	Joseph Nelson,	Indian Traders.
Samuel Cuzzens,	James Brown,	
Jacob Pyatt,	Dennis Sullavan,	
John Owens,	Paul Pearce,	
Thomas Ward,	Caleb Lamb,	

The Deputies of the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawo-

[25] This Dunkar (or Dunker) was doubtless Samuel Eckerlin one of three brothers who migrated from Ephrata about 1745, and ultimately settled on the Monongahela about ten miles below Morgantown, West Virginia. The Dunkers were a sect of German Baptists that arose in the Palatine about 1708, and migrated to Pennsylvania in 1719. Their formal organization took place at a baptism on the banks of Wissahickon Creek (near Philadelphia) in 1723. There were several divisions of this sect, one of which founded the community

nese, Owendatts, and Twightwees; Mr. Andrew Montour, Interpreter for the Province of Pennsylvania; Toanshiscoe, Interpreter for the Six Nations.

George Croghan made the following Speech to the several Nations, when they were met in Council, in the Name of the Honourable James Hamilton, Esquire, Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania:

"FRIENDS AND BRETHREN:—I am sent here by your Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania with this Present of Goods to renew the Friendship so long subsisting between Us, and I present you these four strings of Wampum to clear your Minds and open your Eyes and Ears that you may see the Sun clear, and hear what your Brother is going to say to you."— Gave 4 Strings of Wampum.

A Speech delivered the Delawares — in answer to the Speech they sent by Mr. Weiser three Years ago to his Honour the Governor to acquaint him of the Death of their Chief, King Oulamopess[26]— by George Croghan:

"BRETHREN THE DELAWARES:— Three years ago some of the Chiefs of your Nation sent me a Message by Mr. Weiser to acquaint me of the Death of your King, a man well beloved by his Brethren the English. You told Mr. Weiser that you intended to visit me in order to consult about a new Chief, but you never did it. I have ever since condoled with you for the Loss of so good a Man, and considering the lamentable Condition you were

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of Ephrata. Their tenets were baptism by immersion, a celibate community life, and refusal to bear arms. The Eckerlin brothers sought a solitary wilderness life, and at first were regarded with favor by the Ohio Indians. A massacre, however, demolished their settlement in 1757. Three of the party were captured, and sent as prisoners to Canada, and later to France. For details see Sachse, *German Sectarians of Pennsylvania* (Philadelphia, 1900), ii, pp. 340-359.— ED.

[26] For an account of this chief see Weiser's *Journal*, *ante*.— ED.

in for want of a Chief I present You this Belt of Wampum and this Present to wipe away your Tears, and I desire you may choose amongst Yourselves one of your wisest Counsellors and present to your Brethren the Six Nations and me for a Chief, and he so chosen by you shall be looked upon by us as your King, with whom Publick Business shall be transacted. Brethren, to enforce this on your Minds I present you this Belt of Wampum."—Gave a Belt of Wampum, which was received with the Yohah.[27]

A Speech delivered the Shawonese from the Honourable James Hamilton, Governor of Pennsylvania, by George Croghan:

"BRETHREN THE SHAWONESE:—Three years ago when some of your Chiefs and some Chiefs of the Six Nations came down to Lancaster with our Brethren the Twightwees, they informed me that your People that went away with Peter Chartier was coming back, and since that I hear that Part of them are returned. I am glad to hear that they are coming home to you again that you may become once more a People, and not as you were dispersed thro' the World. I do not blame you for what happened, for the wisest of People sometimes make mistakes; it was the French that the Indians call their Fathers that deceived You and scattered you about the Woods that they might have it in their Power to keep you poor. Brethren, I assure you by this Present that I am fully reconcil'd and have forgot any thing that you have done, and I hope for the future there will be a more free and open Correspondence between us; and now your Brethren

[27] Indians receive a speech with grunts of approval, which the French annalists spelled "ho-ho." Croghan is apparently giving the English rendering of this term.— ED.

the Six Nations join with me to remove any misunderstanding that should have happened between us, that we may henceforth spend the remainder of our days together in Brotherly Love and Friendship. Now, that this Speech which your Brothers the Six Nations joyn with me in may have its full Force on your minds, I present you this Belt of Wampum."— Gave a Belt of Wampum, Which was received with the Yo-hah.

A Speech delivered the Owendatts, from the Honourable James Hamilton, Governor of Pennsylvania, by George Croghan:

"BRETHREN THE OWENDATTS:— I receiv'd a Message by the Six Nations and another by Mr. Montour from you, by both which I understand the French, whom the Indians call their Father, wont let you rest in your Towns in Peace, but constantly threaten to cut you off. How comes this? Are you not a free and independent People, and have you not a Right to live where you please on your own Land and trade with whom you please? Your Brethren, the English, always considered you as a free Nation, and I think the French who attempt to infringe on your Liberties, should be opposed by one and all the Indians or any other Nations that should undertake such unjust proceedings.

"Brethren: I am sorry to hear of your Troubles, and I hope you and your Brethren the Six Nations will let the French know that you are a free People and will not be imposed on by them. To assure you that I have your Troubles much at heart I present you this Belt and this Present of Goods to cloathe your Families."— Gave a Belt of Wampum, which was received with the Yo-hah.

A Speech delivered the Twightwees from the Honour-

able James Hamilton, Esquire, Governor Pennsylvania, by George Croghan:

"BRETHREN THE TWIGHTWEES:—As you are an antient and renowned Nation I was well pleased when you sent your Deputies now three years ago to sollicit our Alliance; nor did we hesitate to grant you your Request, as it came so warmly recommended to us by our Brethren the Six Nations, Delawares, and Shawonese. At your further Request we ordered our Traders to go amongst you and supply you with Goods at as reasonable rates as they could afford. We understand that in obedience to our Commands our Traders have given you full Satisfaction to your Requests. In one your Towns about three Months ago Mr. George Croghan likewise informs us that some more of your Tribes earnestly requested to become our Allies. He and Mr. Montour did receive a writing from you Certifying such your Request, and containing your Promises of Fidelity and Friendship, which we have seen and approve of. Brethren: we have recommended it to our Brethren the Six Nations to give you their advice how you should behave in your new Alliance with us, and we expect that you will follow it, that the Friendship now subsisting between Us, the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese, Owendatts, and you, may become as Strong as a great Mountain which the Winds constantly blow against but never overset. Brethren, to assure you of our hearty Inclinations towards you I make you this Present of Goods; and that this Speech which I make you now in Conjunction with the Six Nations may have its full Force on your minds, I present you this Belt of Wampum."— Gave a Belt, which was received with the Yo-hah.

A Speech made to the Six United Nations by George

Croghan in behalf of the Honourable James Hamilton, Esquire, Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania:

"BRETHREN THE SIX NATIONS: Hear what I am going to say to you. Brethren: it is a great while since we, your Brothers the English, first came over the great Water (meaning the Sea); as soon as our ship struck the Land you the Six Nations took hold of her and tyed her to the Bushes, and for fear the Bushes would not be strong enough to hold her you removed the Rope and tyed it about a great Tree; then fearing the winds would blow the Tree down, you removed the Rope and tyed it about a great Mountain in the Country (meaning the Onondago Country), and since that time we have lived in true Brotherly Love and Friendship together. Now, Brethren, since that there are several Nations joined in Friendship with you and Us, and of late our Brethren the Twightwees: Now, Brethren, as you are the Head of all the Nations of Indians, I warmly recommend it to you to give our Brethren the Twightwees your best advice that they may know how to behave in their New Alliance, and likewise I give our Brethren the Owendatts in charge to you, that you may Strengthen them to withstand their Enemies the French, who I understand treat them more like Enemies than Children tho' they call themselves their Father.

"Brethren: I hope we, your Brothers the English, and you the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese, Owendatts, and Twightwees, will continue in such Brotherly Love and Friendship that it will be as strong as that Mountain to which you tyed our Ship. Now, Brethren, I am informed by George Croghan that the French obstruct my Traders and carry away their Persons and Goods, and are guilty of many outrageous Practices,

Whereby the Roads are rendered unsafe to travel in, nor can we ask our Traders to go amongst you whilst their Lives and Effects are in such great Danger. How comes this to pass? Don't this proceed from the Pride of Onontio, whom the Indians call their Father, because they don't see his ill Designs? The strong houses you gave him Leave to erect on your Lands serve (As your Brethren the English always told you) to impoverish You and keep your Wives and Children always naked by keeping the English Traders at a Distance, the French well knowing the English sell their Goods cheaper than they can afford, and I can assure You Onontio will never rest while an English Trader comes to Ohio; and indeed if you don't open your Eyes and put a Stop to his Proceedings he will gain his Ends. Brethren: I hope you will consider well what Onontio means or is about to do. To enforce what I have been saying to you on your minds, I present this Belt of Wampum."— Gave a Belt. They received this Belt with Yo-hah.

The Speaker of the Six Nations made the following Speech to Monsieur Ioncoeur in open Council; he spoke very quick and sharp with the Air of a Warrior:

"FATHER — How comes it that you have broke the General Peace? Is it not three years since you as well as our Brother the English told Us that there was a Peace between the English and French, and how comes it that you have taken our Brothers as your Prisoners on our Lands? Is it not our Land (Stamping on the Ground and putting his Finger to John Coeur's Nose)? What Right has Onontio to our Lands? I desire you may go home directly off our Lands and tell Onontio to send us word immediately what was his Reason for using our Brothers so, or what he means by such Proceedings, that we may

know what to do, for I can assure Onontio that We the Six Nations will not take such Usage. You hear what I say, and that is the Sentiments of all our Nations; tell it to Onontio that that is what the Six Nations said to you."— Gave 4 Strings of black Wampum.

After which the Chief of the Indians ordered the Goods to be divided, and appointed some of each Nation to stand by to see it done, that those that were absent might have a sufficient Share laid by for them.

After which the Chiefs made me a Speech and told me it was a Custom with their Brothers whenever they went to Council to have their Guns, Kettles, and Hatchets mended, and desired I might order that done, for they could not go home till they had that done. So Mr. Montour and I agreed to comply with their Request, and ordered it done that they might depart well satisfied.

To His Excellency

The Honourable George Clinton

Captain General and Gov.r in Chief

of the Province of New York &c. &c. &c.

at

New York

Sir

Schoneclady 27th May 1751

Yesterday I received the Honour of your Excelleneys Commands, and shall accordingly with all dispatch, Summon the principal Sachems, and head Warriors of every nation of Indians, that are in Alliance with us, to Attend your Excell.cy at Albany.

I am Informed that many Cuendaga Sachems are gone to Canada, to treat with the french Governour, and the Mohawks Indians are of Opinion, that it will be Difficult to get any Indians of the five nations down to Albany, as the Gov.r of Canada has given them the first Invitation. I assure your Excell.y I shall be as frugal in this Affair as possible, and shall take care to render your Excell.cy a just Account, of the disposal of the £, which you have sent me, But I Believe that sum will not pay the Expences of the Indians to Albany. there is Several Warriors of the Six nations are already gone a fighting and there was another party of the mohawks, making ready to go. I have Speak to them with a String of Wampum. in your Excell.cys name and Insisted that they should not go from home, before they had Attended your Excell.cy at Albany. I find that these Indians, which were prisoners in Canada, in the late War are much Unsatisfied that no presents has yet been made them by the Assembly, and if no such provision is made for them, I fear it will be of bad Consequence, in case we should want their Assistance in another War: my son writes me from Oswego, that a Cajoga Indian came lately from Niagra and sayes he saw Six English traders there in Irons, which the french Intended to send as prisoners to Canada for trading

among the foreign Nation of Indians, I Beg your Excell.cy will excuse this long letter, But I thought it my duty to Acquaint you of these perticulars I am with the Utmost respect

Sir

your Excellency Most Dutyfull and Obedient Servant

Aprent Stevens

Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly

In your Address relating to the Papers laid before you from the Governors of New York & Pensilvania, You observe that those two Governments are greatly concerned in Trade with the several Nations of Indians in Alliance with the English, whereas We neither receive any Benefit from Traffick, or are Provided with suitable Presents for them, that therefore you cannot consistent with your Duty increase any charge upon your Constituents for this Purpose; however I think it my Duty to observe to you, that many Warriors of the Six Nations often passes through this Province in order to make War on the Catawbaws, & expect that We and our neighbouring Colonies provide Provisions for them in their March, and if they should be refused, it cannot be doubted, but that they would take it by Violence; And I am apprehensive, that as the Governments to the Southward as well as the Northward of us, allow those Warriors Provisions in their March; that were they to be refused the like allowance in this Province, they would consider such Refusal as a Violation of the Treaties with us, and be induced to treat our Back Inhabitants as Enemies, and how far the Consequence may reach, cannot be easily foreseen: It is easy to prevent any Evils of this kind by making a proper Provision for those People at the Publick Expence, which is but a mere Trifle in Comparison with the Safety of the People,

Sam: Ogle

To His Excellency Samuel Ogle Esq. Governor of Maryland.

The humble Address of the House of Delegates.

May it please your Excellency

This House having taken into Consideration your Excellencys Message of the first Instant in relation to finding Provision for the Warriors of the Six Nations in their Traveling through this Province to War with the Catawbaws, The Latter being in Friendship with the English as well as the former; We humbly Conceive that such Supply might be taken as encouragement to such Warring, and as those People are expert at Hunting and Require little Supply but what that affords We therefore cannot think Proper to interfere or Agree that any Charge should be brought on the Publick for that Purpose ——

Assembly 7 June 1751

7th June 1751.

Read and Assented to by the
Lower House of Assembly

Signed p Order

T: Hammond Cl: Cur

To the Honourable the Represen
of the Province of Pennsylvania

A Journal of the Proceedings of Conrad Weiser in his Journey to Albany with a Message from the Governor of Pensilvania to the Six Nations of Indians. Anno: 1751

To the Honourable the Represen
of the Province of Pennsylvania

A Journal of the proceedings of Conrad Weiser in his Journey to Albany with a Message from the Governor of pensilvania to the Six Nations of Indians

1751

June the 11th Set out from my house in Lancaster County

the 11 arrived in Philadelphia and received my Instructions from his Honour the Governor

the 14 left philadelphia and went by Burdenton & Amboy to newyork

the 17 arrived in Newyork and waited on Governor Clinton with a Letter from Governor Hamilton, I took the same opportunity to ask Leave of Governor Clinton to put my Son Samy into the mohocks Country to learn the Indian Language, the Governor was pleased to say he would lay my request before the Council and I should have his answer to Morrow by Eleven of the Clock

the 18 at the appointed Hour went to the Fort, the Governor sent word to me that I Shall again the next day, waited on Mr Bull

the 19 went again to the Fort, Governor Clinton sent word by Mr Edward Holland, that I was Welcome to put my Son in the mohocks Country. I visited the Catabaws, one of them spoke the onondage very well, he being a prisoner some time ago in that Country, the Catabaw King being informed that I was an Interpreter to the Six united nations, and in good Esteem with them he told me this Indian Interpreter, that he was Invited by the Governor of South Carolina, to Come to the treaty at Albany, and that out of respect and Brotherly Love to the English he Consented to Come in order to make peace with the Six united nations of the northern Indians, upon Equal terms but would not Sue for it, his people would rather spend the last Drop of Blood in the war then to Sue for peace, notwithstanding he desired me to use my Endeavour with my friends touching about a peace between the Northern and the Southern Indians, he said further that he was tired of the War, and wished that those that are now Born might live in peace and die of age. I promised to do all lawful was in my power to bring about a peace and that I had been Employed several times by the Governor of Virginia, but

without

without any Sensible Success: only that the Six united nation in the year 1736 had agreed to a Cessation of arms and performed it. but the Catabaws not Coming to the place of Conveyance appointed by the said nations. to wit Albany or philadelphia all Came to nothing; and that the 6 nation Charged the Catabaws with Treachery and that their word of Honour was nothing. the Catabaw King replyd that he was Sensible that if all old Storries would be told over again there Could be no peace made he on his part would never repeat any, though he might repeat Some. among other things King Napshakes asked me whether I thought it Safe for him to be in Albany, Supposing the Six nation would Come to no termes, I told him yes it was, for the Governor of new-york would take Care of them, if any danger appeared, but I was Satisfied the 6 nations would not hurt them, provided they the Catabaws would take advise. I told Napshakes further, that if nothing Can be done towards a peace. the 6 nation Counsel will bell you to go home in peace and that they will send after you and kill you in your own Country. this was the Substance of my discours with the Catabaw King during our Stay at N: york of which I thought proper to make but one paragraph.

I the name of the Catabaw King

during my Stay in new-york I dined Several times with Mr. Bull the Comissioner from South Carolina, and we had Several Serious discourse about the affair of the peace between the northern and Southern Indians. I told Mr. Bull that I thought the Catabaw King was a little to Haughty in his mind, and that I was afeared all would turn mile Smoothe, without he Could be brought to make a more humbler and indeed a more Reasonable Speach to the 6 nation, then what he gave me to understand, Mr. Bull told me it was more the desire of the Goverment of S. Carolina then the Catabaws to have a peace between the said Indians, because their back Settlers Suffered a great deal of ille. Mr. Bull had the thing very much at heart and Seemed to me to be an Experienced man in Indian affair and a Gentleman of a free and open Conversation, he desired I would assist him in the affair with what Lay in my power, which I promised to do.

no vessel went off to Albany this week all were taken up by Some Gentlemen in order to follow Governor Clinton to Albany to be present and see the treaty

A true Copy Richard Peters Secry

Sept 20 Mr Bull made a Diner for the Catabaws and desired my Company I Complied with his request, the Catabaw King Signified to me that it was a very great Satisfaction to him to get acquainted with me. Vide. the Catabaws King well Cloathed in Blue, and the King wore red Breeches.

Sept 22 Governor Clinton Let me know by Mr Holland that he was Informed all Albany Sloops wer taken up, and that I Could get no passage I Should be Welcome to go in one of his vessels, I returned his Excellency thanks and Let him Know I took passage for meselve & Companions in Mr Beekmans.

Sept 24 found the Mr Beekmans vessel to full took passage with Mr Egberts who had the Catabaws and other passengers from Albany, on bord this afternoon by four of the Clock Gov Clinton was under Sail with a fair wind the rest of the vessels followed him

Sept 27 we arrived in Albany, but found the Indians were not arrived as yet, I took up Lodging at Mr Robert Roseboons a private house

Sept 31 the Indians arrived but not in Such great number as formerly on Such occasion, there was but a few of the Sinnikers & of the Cyuekers, and not many of the onontagers. most of them were Mohocks. oneidos & Tuscarroros, five of the mohock Chiefs Came to See me that Evening, they thought I had Brought the Catabaws with me to make a peace for them with the Six nations, I told them that I accidentally met them in new-york, and got acquainted with them and for want of a better opportunity I Came in the Same vessel with them from new-york. they seamed to be well inclined for a peace with the Catabaws and wished the Catabaws would made a Suitable Speech to the Counsel of the Six nations. they asked Whether the Governor of pensilvania or any Commissioner was Come I told them no. but that I was sent with a Message from the Governor of pensilvania to the Six nation to be delivered to them after the Governor of new-york had done with them.
after they being gone they sent one of them back to Let me Know, that it was unsafe for the Catabaws to be Seen by the Six nation of Indians before a speech was made, notwithstanding Some might be inclined for peace as well as the mohocks, yet others might [illegible] their Hatchets upon the first Sight. I acquainted Mr Bull with this, and a Centry was ordered before the Catabaws door, and they were ordered to keep above Stairs

I visited Brand a Chief of the mohocks and told him that I Brought one of my Sons in order to put him into the mohocks Country to learn the Language and if they Pleased Brand and his wife the being present thereof, would receive him I was inclined to leave him with them. both Brand and his wife appeared to be very glad, and Embraced my Son Sammy with tears in their Eies, and said they would receive him as their own Child, if I would leave him with them. they having but one Child and Just then Brought him to Albany to put him into an English School to learn English. Brands wifes family is the family in which I was Adopted as a Son, [illegible] in the year 1714

July the first Several of the Chiefes of the oneiders Came to see me and discourse with me about several things to wit about my Voyage and asked whether or no the proprietors were Expected over. their visits being allways attended with some Cost.

the 2 this day above twenty Canoes arrived with french Indians they Came Loaded with Beavers. they the french Indians went and paid their Compliment to Gov.r Dudley, as did the Chiefs of the Six nations afterwards. Elyonnenhocarrow a sinicker Chiefe Came to Salute me very friendly, he is one of them that Came to philadelphia when the proprietor Mr. Thomas penn first Came in, also the Shickany Indians Came to see me. I was obliged to receive a good many visits. Spent the Evening with Mr. Stevens the provincial Interpreter and some of the Chiefs of the mohocks, to wit Henry. nicklas. Abram & others. they asked what Business the french Indians had in Albany at this time and said that the Gov.r of Canada would not suffer the mohocks in Canada, he would tell them to be gone by such an Hour or Suffer Imprisonment, they said further that they Could not open their heart to the Gov.r of N: york in the presence of those Indians, but it is well known that the french praying Indians are all or most all mohocks and are allways kindly received in the mohawks Country

The Indians Spoke in publick to the Governor and Condoled with him over the death of the Kings Eldest Son and gave a Bundle of Skins

they also Condoled with the Governor over the the death of the Kings Subjects killed in the Last warr by the Comon Enemy they gave a Belt.

Several other Belts they gave to perform Elsewhere according to

[illegible]

to Indians Customs by way of Consolation the particulars for
brevity-s Sake I here omit. Henry peters the mohawk being
Speaker for the Indians

the The Governor Spoke to the Indians in publick by
Henry peters before named. Henry went on his own way
without being Interrupted by any Body, and returned the
Indians thanks for their Speech of yesterday, and Condoled
with the Indians over the death of their Chiefs &c &c.
a Strowed Matchcoat, a Shirt, & a pair of Stockings, was given to
Each Death their Number being twelve.
I leave the rest to the Journal Men made by Gov.r Clinton,
Clerk.

the 5. The Chiefs of the oneiders & Tuscaroroes Came to return a
Belt & a String of Wampum. that remained unExchanged at
oneido Last year about the virginia affair

The Indians Comeing every day to my Lodging in great numbers
and asking me when I would deliver my message, and Said that
Since the Gov.r of N-y moved so Slow I Could deliver my Mssage
next morning before the Gov.r would rise, I told them I must
have the Gov.rs Leave. I therefore went to ask it. Mr. Aslow who
attended the Governor, went up to tell him what I wanted. the
Gov.r Sent word, that he would have every thing in writing what I
was going to Say to the Indians in order to Lay it before the Council.
I told Mr Aslow that I had nothing more to Say to the Indians
then what was Contained in my Instructions, the Governor desired
to See them, I Sent them to him, after they wer read in Council they
wer returned to me. I was told that the Governor wanted to Speak to
me Some time in the afternoon. Mr Aslow desired to know where
I Lodged that they Gov.r might Send for me, when he was at Leisure.
accordingly in the afternoon the Gov.r Sent a Serjant to my Lodging
for me, I went to wait on him, doctor golding was present when his
Excellency was pleased to tell me. that he wanted to Speak to the Indians
that forenoone but they being Some where Else engaged from the morning
till noone he did not know where, So that he was disappointed he must
therefore charge me not to Speak to the Indians before he had done with
them, and that I must give it him in writing all what I was going
to Say to them, I told his Excell.y that I had in Charge from Governor
Hamilton, not to Speak to the Indians or deliver my Mssage without
his Excell.cy Governor Clinton's foreknowledge & Approbation, as to my

giving

giving in writing. There was my Instructions. I would not go beyond, If his Excellency was doubtfull he might order his Interpreter to be present. when I delivered my Message as for the Indians Coming to see me, and shake hands with me, I could not help that, I could not tell them not to offend them. his Excellency replyd that he would not have me to give them any offence. and so dismiss me. —

Gr. Governor Clinton had asked the Interpreter & Col. Johnson where the Indians had been all that day and what they had been about they could have told him if they would.

after I left the Governor I found by a discource I had with the Comissioners from Boston, that a report prevailed among the Gentlemen. that I came to buy Land from the Indians, but not one Single word was spoke to the Indians about Land by me, during the whole time I was in Albany

The 6. Governor Clinton spoke to the Indians. the Indians being asked whether they were ready to hear the Governor speak they answered yes. But what is the matter, said Henery the Indian Speaker, that our good friend and Counsellor Warrachiagon is not present. we Cant hear our Brother the Governor speak before he is present. Col. Johnson was sent for and after he sat down. the Governor spoke to the Indians the Governors speech was Interpreted by Mr. Holland into Low Dutch for the Interpreter to the Indians. and by him into mohocks.

In the afternoone the Governor sent to me to let me know that he was desireous I should assist Arent Stevens next Monday in the Interpretation. when the Indians would give their answer the Governor further desired that I might assist the Honourable Wm. Bull Comissioner from South Carolina in his affairs Concerning the peace with the Six nations

The 8. The Indians gave their answer. I was present and assisted in the Interpretion.

after the Indians had done Mr. Bull spoke to them. Captain Callick the Interpreter from Boston was prevailed upon to Interpret for Mr. Bull

The

A true Copy Richard Peters
Sec.y

The Interpreter Arend Stevens desired to be Excused, he did Expect that Mr. Bull Should have offered him pay for his trouble - I assisted Captain Ellick. Mr. Bull delivered a Letter from the Governor of South Carolina under the Broad Seal of the province which I at the request of Ellick Explained to the Indians. after Mr. Bull had done the Calabaws were sent for at the request of the mohocks as well the Govr. I went to meet them and Conducted them to their proper place they Came along Singing with their Calabashes decked with feders in their hands, they Continued Singing for a while after they Sat down. in the mean time. the Calmet pipe was offered by the Calabaw King to all the Chiefs and old people of the Six nations, and after this another Calmet was offered by one of the Warriours of the Calabaws, and the Six nations Indians Smoaked out of Both. then the Calabaw King Stood up & spoke, but appeared to be very much daunted and Could make no hand of it. It was a very difficult matter for Mr. Toll. the Interpreter that Came with the Calabaws to English it, Captain Ellick had obliged himself to Interpret, but Could not go through with it. though he spoke the mohocks a great deal better then I, and so the Indians were at a last. they desired me to tell them Knows the Substance of what was Said. which I did, to their Satisfaction,

The 6 nations made answer by Aaquendoda an oneider Chief as follows. We are glad to see the Calabaws at our Council fire in Albany, we thank them for their Kind Speech and after we have Considered and Deliberated together about the thing, we will give them their answer which probably will not be to morrow. the Calabaws for this time took their leave and shoke hands with most all the Six nation. Indians that were present, and the Six nation Indians Especially the Chiefes appeared very Cordially to them. the meeting which had Lasted Several Hours Broke up now.

towards the Evening the Carolina Interpreter desired me to Come and see his Indians and Smoake a pipe with them, when I Came there, the Calabaw King Stood up with his Companions and Shaked hands with me and thanked me for my Interpretation of his Speech, he told me that his friend (him that was prisoner at onondago) had told him that I helped his speech and put it in

good

good order for him and that he would remember my kindness as long as he Lived

The 9. Being Informed that the Governor had sent to the Butcher and Baker for their Bills and was preparing to go off. I waited on him to get Leave to deliver my message but was told by his Excellency that as soon as Mr. Bull and the Calabaws had their answer I should deliver my message — every thing seamed to be in a Confusion the Indians found some hard Expressions in Mr. Bulls Speech, which Sounded very rash by the Interpretation of Capt. Callick. they were also uneasy about the Governors presents, they having been told that after they had given their answer to Mr. Bull & the Calabaws they should receive them, the Indian Counsel Sat all day. they sent for Brent Stevens Capt. Callick and me. to repeat to them what was said by Mr. Bull and the Calabaws which we did haveing a Copy of Mr. Bulls Speech with us

The 10. The Indian Counsel Sat again till most noone then they Came and gave their answer to Mr. Bull and the Calabaws which was agreeable both to Mr. Bull & the Calabaws.

Mr. Bull gave the Indians a Barrle of Bear to drink with the Calabaws. and the Governor ordered his present to be delivered to the Indians as did Mr. Bull.

The Governor Called me into his house and told me in the presence of doctor Golden that I was now at Liberty to deliver my message when I pleased, provided I had nothing Else to say then what was Mentioned in Governor Hamiltons Letter to me, I told him that I had not, so he Called for a glass of wine and drunk Governor Hamiltons good Health and he ordered the glass to be filled for me, I wished his Excellency a good Voyage to new-york he haveing Said that he was Soon a going. accordingly he went off. the Indians being very — Much exasperated, because they being all by door and the — presents being there undivided and his Excellency went off without taking Some of them by the hand & saying So much as farewell. Besides the Indians had not done Speaking with him. they wanted Some provisions on their return &c. But his Excellency Expected as Mr. Bull told me / that the Comissioners of Boston — Mr. Bull and myself should now provide for the Indians.

A true Copy Richard Peters
Sec.ry

I Informed the Indians that all the vessels were going of that Evening and Could get no passage to New-york perhaps in ten days, I would therefore desire them to Come and receive the Message I had from the Governor of pensilvania that afternoone. accordingly between five & Six of the Clock they Came to my Lodging, to the number of thirty & upwards Some of the Chiefs of Each nation among them. and as such Message required a good deal of Ceremonies, which no European Can perform I followed the Example of Governor Clinton and hired an Indian to wit Canachqua-ieson a Chief of the oneiders (after the Indians were all Seated down, I ordered them some drink. in the mean time Canachquaieson walked up and down the room and Sung Lamentation Songs over the death of Canasatego & others, named them all the Chiefs that died of late which Lasted about a quarter of an Hour, and then he Sat down, and after a Short pause he Stood up, and said Brethren the united Six nations. the Governor of pensilvania has sent Tharachiawagon with a Message to you you are desired to hear attentively. the Speaker gave a String of Wampum and proceeded

Brethren. The Governor of pensilvania was but Last year Informed of the death of Several of the Chiefs of the Six nations died on their way homewards from philadelphia, and that after their arrival in their own towns this good friend Canasatego & Sir Wm aughty &c. have also died, the Governor and the people of pensilvania are very sorry to hear of the death of those their good friends and Brethren, and have therefore Immediately ordered Tharachiawagon to your towns with a present to Signify to the relations of the deceased and to the Council that the Governor & people of pensilvania Condole with you on the loss of Such valuable persons, and to Wipe off the tears of your Eyes. Brethren the winter being so near at hand when Tharachiawagon was Charged with this Message that he would not venture to trouble and therefore delayd till now. a String of Wampum was given and ten peices of Strouds delivered to them. and they were told that one peice thereof was given in particular on the death of Canasatego to wipe off the tears of his relations, and to Cover his Grave. the peice of Strout being Layd by itself when Brought into the room. there was another peice of Strouds

Layd

Layd by it Self, and they were told that that was given on the death of Gunjaquoh an old mohock Warrior who died in his majestys Servies in the Last Warr as he served as an out Shouk, and was killed by the french. and on the death of a Son of Cayenquarachton a Sinickter Chief who was also killed by the Comon Enemy in the Last Warr. they were told that that piece of Strouk Served to Cover the Graves of theselves warriors Honourably, and wipe of the Tears of their relations as they had Sacrified their Live for the good of the Comon Caure and in obedience to his Majesty King George—

After the message was delivered to them, they Sat a good while and wispering to one another about a small present that they ought to have Sent to the Governor of pensilvania, but they had parled with the Few Skins they Brought on other occasions, Abram a Chief of the mohock aquainted me with their Concern, I gave him to understand that they need not Stand for that at present that I would Excuse them in the best manner I Could with the Governor and people of pensilvania, Abram then went again to his place and after a Short Consultation with the rest of the Chiefs he Stood up and Said

Brother Tharachiawagon. the message you delivered to us Just now from our Brethren the Governor & people of pensilva gives us a great deal of Satisfaction it is the Largest that ever we received on Such occasion, and we take it as a— fresh token of the Brotherly Love of the Governor and people of pensilvania towards us. We desire you by this String of Wampum to return Thanks in our name to our— Brethren the Governor and people of pensilvania in the best manner you are Capable of. the Speaker gave me a String of Wampum.

After a Short pause. I told them that I had Some thing else to Say to them, about an affair of my own. and Said Brethren I have Brought one of my Sons with me to put him into the mohocks Country among my relations and in the Same family in which I was Adopted as a Son 37 years ago, to Learn the mohock Language to enable him to Serve as an Interpreter between the people of pensilvania and the Six united nations. I Begine to grow old and must Soon over travelling into the Indian Country before Long. I must therefore

therefore recomend my Son into ~~your~~ Care, in hopes
that you will do all what lies in your power both
for his Safety, as Instruction in your Language, particularly
in Counsil affair. gave them a Streng of Wampum

After a Short Consultation they had together Abram Spoke &
said. Brother Tharachiawagon, we be glad to See your Son, and more to
because you brought him to leave him with us, you did
very well in bringing your Son to the place of your Birth
and to your family, we Looke upon him as our own Child,
and we will use our best Endeavour to learn him Speak
well, and to make a man of him. in Confirmation whereof
he gave me a Streng of Wampum. and the Indians all Shook
hands with Samy

As the Hour was approaching for the vessel that Stayed for
me to go off / She was the only one left / I told the Indians
so, haveing Some drink ready for them, we drank together
and then took our Leave of one another, it being paped
ten of the Clock at night, my Son Samy & Daniel Claus
his tutor followed me to the water Side, where I gave them the Last
Charge and bid them fare well.

the 11 we Came to an anchor about 12 miles this Side of Albany / there
being four Sloops in Company / Coll: peter Stuyller invided
me to Come on Bord of his Sloop and dine with him, which I
did, and Soon after a Strong North wind Sprung up, and Mr
Stuyller would have me Stay on Bord of him with which I
readely Complyd our Sloops being too full.

the 12. about Eleven of the Clock arrived in new-york with the
rest of the vessels, in one of which was Governor Clinton.
But the Sloop in which my things was, and the young man
that accompanied daniel Claus to Albany, Came to an anchor
at Soppus / or Kings town / and Lost thereby the opportunity
of the fair wind, did not arrive till

the 16. in the Evening we Could get no passage then. till

the 19 we Left new-york and arrived in Philadelphia the 22

the 22. waited on the Governor and made Hast to get home

finding

finding myself ~~very~~ well being taken with a feaver —

The 23 I left Philadelphia was taken very ill that day stayd at Rudolph Boners, two nights & two days Doctor Diemer attending me with visits

The 27 arrived at my house in a very weak Condition but the feaver having left me, I soon recovered ——

Heidleberg the Second Day of August 1750

Conrad Weiser
Interpreter.

Mr. Weisers Journal
of Proceedings at
Albany in June 1751

Aug 1 13 1751

1751 A Journal of the Commissioners of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay Present at the Interview with the Six Nations

June 26 The Commissrs all met together at Sheffield went to Stockbridge the weather being bad we Lodged there

27 We sent for Nickolas the Chief of the Mohawks that were then at Stockbridge Let him know that we were appointed by the Government of the Massachusetts Bay to be present at the Interview with the Six Nations at Albany we told him that we Concluded that their Nation was invited to be present by the Governour of New York — and we Should Speak to him as many others of the Mohawks as would be present upon our return to Stockbridge — He told us that the Indians at the Interview would have a great many things to Speak to us —
Then we proceeded on our Journey & came to Green Bush where we lodged we were informed that Govr Clinton that day arrived at the City with Kings Blue and Six of the Catawba Indians The same day also arrived at the City Mr Pitkin & Col Chester Commissrs from Connecticut

28. This Morning we went to the City took up our Lodgings we together with the Gentn from Connecticut waited upon Govr Clinton at his Lodgings we Shewed him our Commission he desired a Copy of it which we afterwards Delivered him

29 Col Lydius Shewed us a Letter dated the 16 of June he had Recd from Monsr Herbin Commandr of the Fort at Crown point Informing that our Captives taken from the Eastward last year were all arrived there except three which were daily expected from St Francois we immediately inquired for a Suitable person to go to Crown point in Order to Conduct the Captives from thence to Albany Mr Anthony Van Schaick was Recommended to us as a Suitable person to be employed we Sent for him found him Willing to Undertake the Journey he Agreed to Set out with a Kinsmans of his on Monday following —
We applyd to Govr Clinton who Readily granted him a Passport we were Informed that the Indians of the Six Nations were coming down & were to lodge this night at Schenectada

30. This day the Indians of the Six Nations came to the City we were told there was but few of the Onondagoes Cayugas & Senecas among them that some of their Chiefs were gone to Canada & that they had divers parties gone to War against the Southern Nations of Indians
This Evening came to the City 15 Canoes of the Cagnuwaga Tribe but none of their Chiefs among them

July 1. This Morning Mr Van Schaick Set out on his Journey to Crown point with our Letter to Monsr Herbin in the words following Albany July 1. 1751 We are here Commissioned by the Govr of the Mass Bay among other things to Redeem the Captivity of a Number of our people from Canada Made prisoners & detained there in a time of peace who are the Instigators of this wicked practice we dont know & Remember only that the Governour of Canada does Utterly Disapprove of it for we hear they are sworn Subjects of his Majesty of Great Britain when you Command & Reside your Lake we ask you for

To forward their return home by Mr Van Schaick if he comes to Aid them with all Possible Dispatch We are &c

Instructions to Mr Anthony Van Schaick of the City of Albany Employed by the Commissioners of the Massachusetts Bay to go to Fort S.t Frederick at Crown point to Conduct from thence the English Captives that were taken the last year from the Eastward parts of Said Government to the City of Albany

1. You are to Acquaint the Commandor of S.d Fort that you are Employed by the Commissioners of S.d Government to Conduct S.d English Captives to the City of Albany & you are ready to pay for what is necessary to furnish said Captives for the Journey & desire that you may be Dispatched with all Convenient Speed.

2. In Case S.d Commandor refuse upon the terms aforesaid to discharge said Captives you are Strictly to Enquire the reasons thereof, and let him know if he demands to Redemption money that it is Contrary to the practice of all Christian Nations to demand Rewards for the Redemption of Captives & if they will begin the practice it may finally turn on to Ballance in our favour.

3. In Case the Redemption money Capt Stevens in his private Capacity (Commissr) to Monsr Santanel be Insisted upon & the Captives cannot be Obtained without paying the Same you are to make carefull Enquiry what Sum he promised & pay the same but withal to take Care that the Demand be Reduced to a Certainty in Writing before you pay any thing Containing an Acct what Sum was paid for each Captive by Name and for what Sum or Sums of money you must necessarily Engage in order to Accomplish this Affair you may draw upon us therefor we hereby Oblige ourselves Duly to Honour the Same Reid

4. If you meet with Any of the Chiefs of the Cagnawaga Tribe in your way to Crown point, or there, Let them Know that the Commissioners from the Massachusetts Bay are at Albany & desire a friendly Conference with them & have Authority from said Government to Treat with them.

Finally you are to Conduct yourself Agreeable to these Instructions and we rely on your Honour & fidelity that you will not Conceal as the Nature of the thing requires to Disclose the Same.

July 2d There came to Albany a Considerable number of the Cagnawaga Tribe with large Quantities of Beaver to Trade with the people there

3. Governour Clinton Sent a Message to the Commissioners of the Several Governments to meet at his Lodgings in Order to Agree upon an Speech to be made to the Six Nations he appointed Such of his Council as were in the City to Confer with us

4. The Commissioners met again & Agreed upon a Speech to be Delivered to the Six Nations in Behalf of all the Governments who were present by their Commissioners

The Same day we Sent to Several of the principal men of the Cagnawagas that

That were then at Albany that we had a desire to Speak to them Soon after there came Twelve of them to our Lodgings To whom we Spoke as follows Viz

That in the year 1724 at albany a friendship was Settled between the Government of the Massachusetts Bay & your Tribe which was after wards Renewed at Boston in the year 1725 in Consequence of which a free trade was Carried on between us & you for a Considerable time & the Broadway kept open & Clear between us & you. That about Six years ago you broke this friendship with us Killed & Captivated our people in a Consequence whereof then open War Ensued & altho you have been the Aggressors we would let you know that we are not of So Irreconcilable a temper as to refuse to be at Peace And would Inform you that there is a Treaty Appointed by our Government with the Eastern Tribes at St. Georges In Augt next and that it will be Acceptable to our Government for Some of your Chiefs to Appear there to Settle a Peace & friendship with us if they be disposed thereto, And they may come by the way of Albany or Fort Dummer to Boston or directly down to St Georges & be assured of a kind reception — And you may come with the same freedom to Trade at our Truck Houses in the Mean time as you now do to Albany.

Delivered them a String of Wampum

Their Answer

In the first place they repeat the whole that we had Said unto them & Observe that our Message was to be Carried to their Chiefs & there to be Considered

They present us Six Beaver Skins and Say they are Glad they have opportunity to Speak to us peaceably & that they Accept all we Said, that we goon in the Same path that our fathers have done before us which is for peace, & they are well pleased with and Rejoyce that we would take Notice of them Since they came with no Message to us.

July 5 We were Informed by a Message from the Governour that he would make his Speech to the Indians this day at 11 o'Clock & by another Message that for difficulty had happened relating to ye Speech & that the affair was put off

6. This Morning the Governour sent a Message to us that he would make his Speech to the Indians at 10 o'Clock we Accordingly Attended & he Spoke to them as follows Viz:

Brethren The Design of my meeting with you at this time is to Renew this Covenant Chain to Clear it away all rust to brighten it & Strengthen it So that it may for ever endure as this Chain has Lasted So long & Secured us Against the designs of our enemies who have at all times endeavoured and do Still endeavouring to break it — they would be glad that we or you Should let it Slip Let us then hold it Fast with all our Strength & Secure it at both Ends.

Commissioners of the Neighbouring Colonies of the Massachusetts Bay and Connecticut have met you at the Council fire in this place from the Earliest time & are now Come Again — Here is also a Commissioner from South Carolina which Province being a great way off have never Sent any Commissioner before this time these Commissioners are all Come hither to assist us in Strengthening & Holding fast the Old Covenant Chain.

I now by this Belt in your Father the King of Great Brittain Name and behalf of all his Majt^y Subjects in North America renew & Confirm the Covenant

Covenant Chain & all former Engagements of Love & Friendship between us & you that they may remain firm & unshaken as long as the Sun and Moon shall indure

The Chain Belt

Brethren

One great end & purpose of this Chain is to secure Trade and Commerce between us & you & by your means will all the Nations of Indians which lay to the Westward, by this means the power and Authority of the Six Nations is greatly increased among all their Neighbours as they must come thro your Country to carry on their Commerce So necessary for them & when they see the Strength & Numbers of your Brethren all over this great Continent United together in this Covenant Chain they must have a high Opinion of Our power

The Governour of Canada Dreads this Union of the Brethren withes and with the Distant Nations to the Westward & Southward as far as to the River Missisipi And for this Reason he is always Endeavouring to break this Chain by Obstructing & Stopping Trade and Commerce that is between this people & the Far Indians who pass thro your Country.

I am told he is at this time building a Fort on your Lands at Oniagara to Stop the Indians in their way to Trade with us if you should Suffer him to do this, the Six Nations will become weak & Mean in the Eyes of all the Neighbouring Nations - For these Forts will be like Bitts & Bridles in their Mouths by which you & the Other Indian Nations Must turn & go as the Governour of Canada pleases - Your Brethren the English make no Attempts on you to Restrain your Liberty of going to Trade where you like best, and where you can be best Served - Whereas these Forts which the French build are to take this Liberty from the other Nations and to force them to go to Canada And thereby to withdraw their Love & Friendship from you and you And to make them Our Enemies - Therefore by this Belt in the Name of your Father the King I desire & Requir of you that as Soon as Possible you send a proper Number of your men to Oniagara to Oblige the French to forbear their erecting any Fort or other building there or at Ohio or any where else on your Lands And to demolish what is already built, it will be much easier to prevent there being built than to pull them down afterwards -

A Belt -

Another Artifice the Enemies of our Covenant Chain make use of is to Excite Variance & Ware between the Several Indian Nations which are United with your Brethren the English in the Several parts of this great Continent; Nothing can so Effectually weaken & at Last entirely destroy the Brethren as their falling out Among themselves And mutually killing & destroying One Another This doing the

Work &c

Work of your enemies while they Sit looking on & laugh at your folly --
If all the Indian Nations United in friendship with Carolina Virginia
Maryland Pensylvania this Government Connecticut Massachusetts Bay &
New Hampshire were timely & firmly United in the same Councils with
Love & friendship; How great would that power be! what dread must it
strike on their Enemies & who dare attempt to disturb them.

In Order to Accomplish this so much to be desired Union I have
prevailed upon the Governour of South Carolina to Send a Gent.n to this
place whom you now See here & to Send with him Six of the Chiefs of the
Catawbas who are now in this City ready to make peace with you and to
become your fast friends and be United with you in our Common Cause
I therefore by this Belt Exhort you to lay hold of this proffered peace
and friendship with the Catawbas which must Tend to Strengthen the Event
Chain & the Common Interest of us all I can no longer bear to See those
who are our Brethren killing & destroying one another I therefore do not
doubt of your Chearfully Agreeing to what I now propose

A Belt of Peace

As the keeping the path open to this place from all the Indian Nations
to the Westward of you is of so great benefit to you as well as to the Common
Interest of us all I give this Belt to remove all Logs or other Rubbish that may
Obstruct it

A Belt.

I design in a little time to pass over the great water to the King
your Father & I perswade my self that your ready Comply and with what I
now require of you, will enable me to recommend you to his favour: and that
I may tell the King of this among many other Instances of your Faithfulness
to him and thereby Secure to you his Protection, And as the time of my
Imbarking draws near I must recommend to you all possible Dispatch
to the Affairs now before you

A Belt

July 8. The Six Nations made Answer to the Governours Speech which was taken
in writing by the Governours Clerk, we repeatedly applyed for a Copy thereof
But was told we Could not have it unless we went to New York for it.
This day also Brig Bull Spoke to the Six Nations relating to their making
peace with the Catawbas & Delivered to them a Message Sent in writing from the
Governour of South Carolina at which time the Catawbas also Appeared &
made a speech to the Six Nations & performed the Ceremonies preparatory to
Agreed

9 The Six Nations Spent this day in Considering the Affair of making peace with
the Catawbas

July 10

July 10 The Six Nations Appeared & Spoke to the Govr Lt^h to know that they had Considered the proposal of peace made to them by the Catawbas and that they had Consented to Receive them as their Brethern Then the Ceremonies for the Confirmation of peace was mutually performed

Then the Governour Delivered the Six Nations his present and also Brig^r Bull the present from South Carolina afterwards the Governour Imbarked for New York.

11. We Informed the Six Nations we would Speak to them at 10 o'Clock this day, they appeared at the place we appointed them & we made a Speach to them as follows

Brethren We were directed by our Governour & his great Council to Joyn with Governour Clinton and the Genl Commissioners from the other Governments to renew our former friendship and Brighten the Antient Covenant Chain which we have already performed and we rejoyced to find by your Answer that you readily & Chearfully Agree with us therein, And we have it fast at Both Ends

Those matters being finished According to the Custom of our Fathers We Now Inform you from our Governour & his great Council that since the War was over between the King of Great Brittain your Father and the King of France The Government of the Massachusetts Bay have made peace with the Penobscot & other Eastern Indian Tribes that were at war with them Since which Some of the Canada Tribe of Indians have Captivated Some of our people And that an Englishman has been killed & Scalpt by way of Reprisal as they say for the Murther of one of their Tribe by some of our young men that one of the Supposed Offenders made his Escape and the other Two have been tried agreable to Our Laws & Acquitted That if they had been found guilty they would have been put to death in like manner as if they had killed one of our own people We also would Inform you that our Government did Invite Some of their Chiefs to Boston to Accomodate this Affair who Accordingly came and Expressed themselves Satisfied with what we then did

Notwithstanding which at the Instigation of the French they Continue their Hostilities on our Borders & that our God is so far from taking an hasty revenge for these Injuries they have Again Invited them to a Conference at St Georges in May next to put an End to these differences and we have also Since we came to this City Sent a Message to the Chiefs of the Iroquoise Tribe that if they will be present at that Treaty we shall be willing to settle a firme & friendship with them We let you know

Their

This because we look upon you as our Brethren that you may See that we are not wanting on our parts to preserve peace however differently the French may Represent thy Matters to our prejudice And to fix on your Minds what we have now related we give you this Belt

A Belt.

Brethren We now in behalf of our Governour this great Council Return our hearty thanks to all your Tribes for your past fidellity & good Services and and particularly to those persons & their families who have distinguished themselves in their Chearfull Services Against the Common enemy and as they have been great Sufferers (which is Sometimes the Fate of War) we have Dostile from our hearts Condole with you and as a Testimony of it we make you this Present

And as a further Evidence of the truth & reality of our Repeatedly Declared friendship to the Tribes of the Six Nations our Ast Friends we make this present not Excluding our Suffering Friends who have been particularly Exposed

We then delivered the presents & wished them a Safe Return to their Respective Castles.

¶ 12 There Came to us About 10 Indians of the Unaiiagaagas who live on a Branch of Susquahanah River they are not a distinct Tribe but part of Several of the Tribes of the Six Nations who were Sent to by Govr Clinton to be present at the Interview who thro a Defect in the Interpreters were not duly notified, Upon Enquiry we found them to be a people Inclined to Receive the Christian Religion we Encouraged them to Send Some of their Boys to Stockbridge for Education they told us one of them had been there already and was now going Again after which we gave them a Small present.

Jacob Wendell by order

1745

By the Honble Spencer Phips Esq. Lieut. Gov. & Com. in Chief for the time being in & over his Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England. A

Instructions to Jacob Wendell Joseph Dwight & Oliver Partridge Esqrs appointed by the General Court of the Province aforesaid to act in behalf of this Government at an interview with the Six Nations at Albany ——

In pursuance of the Order of said Court of the 7th Inst. and your commission, You are forthwith to proceed to Albany, & wait on his Excellcy Gov. Clinton, and the Commissioners of the other Governments, who may be present at the proposed interview with the Six Nations in consequence of the desire of his Excellcy the Gov. of New York. And agreeable to his request you are to confer with the Indians of those Nations, who may meet you there, And

1. Remind those Tribes of their former Treaties and solemn Engagements with this Government.
2. Return them the grateful Acknowledgments of this Government for their former Friendship & Faithfulness, & assure them, that as we have according to former Stipulations been in perfect Amity with them, so it is our sincere disposition inviolably to maintain the same.
3. Let them know that you are ready on the part of this Government to brighten the Covenant Chain with them, and upon their agreeing to it, you are to ratify former Covenants with them.
4. Let them know that since this Government have made Peace with the Penobscot & other Indian Tribes who were lately at War with us, some of the St. Francois Indians have made incursions upon our Borders, and taken some of our Coast Fishermen by way of reprizal as they pretended for the same, they alledge of their Tribe by some of our young men: That the supposed Offenders have been tried according to our Laws & acquitted: that if they had been found guilty, they would have suffered death in like manner as if they had killed any of our own People: Besides which the Government have invited some of their Chiefs to Boston in order to accommodate this Affair, who accordingly came & expressed themselves satisfied, notwithstanding which

at the Instigation of the French they are still disposed in our Frontiers. Let them know that we look upon them as our good Friends, and that we inform them of this that they may see we are not wanting in our endeavours faithfully to keep all our Engagements, however differently the French may represent this matter to our prejudice.

5. In case you renew our former covenants, you are as has been usual, to make them the Present, which this Govern ment hath furnished you with.

6. You are to see those Mohawks who incline to settle at or near Stockbridge, and assure them of the Governments inclination of their design, and of the measures taken to encourage them in it, and to provide for their instruction in the Christian Religion & in useful learning. And you are to improve an opportunity if possible to see them at their present Settlement there, and know from them if that or any other place be more agreeable to them.

7. X Inasmuch as some of the Cayouaga Indians are come into the Western parts of this Province, you are to endeavour to see them, and dispose their Minds to a hearty Friendship with us; and if you can engage them in our Interests, you are to incite some of their Chiefs to Albany if they cannot conveniently take such a Journey, you are to enter into engagements of Friendship with them, and make them such Presents as you think necessary out of the many which the Govern ment shall provide for that purpose. And you may likewise encourage them to settle within this Province if you find them disposed to it.

8. You are in the most prudent manner to enquire after the English Captives lately taken at the Eastward, and if you find that they will probably be detained in Captivity unless a Ransom is paid; You may take up as on your own credit a Sum sufficient for the purpose & endeavour to have them brought to Albany before you come from thence, which you are to afford them such help & assistance as may be needful to bring them home.

Offer all proper Encouragement of those Affairs
very much to your Attendance hoping & expecting that
every thing will be done which may be consistent
with his Majesties Service and the Advantage of
his Majesties good Subjects in these Governments,
& for accomplishing the good Intentions of your Ap=
pointment —

In Council June 18. 1751 Read & Accepted
Sent down for Concurrence
Sam Watbrook Dep Secy

In the House of Repts June 19. 1751
Read and Concurd with the
Amendments.
Sent up for concurrence
T. Hubbard Spkr

In Council June 19. 1751. Read & the Board Agree to all the Amendts. Except the first to which they disagree & adhere to the Draught of Instructions as so amended
Sent down for Concurrence
Jnº Read and Secy

In the House of Repts June 19. 1751
Read and Concurd
T. Hubbard Spkr

Consented to
T. Phips

Abm. Lott Esqr
27th June 1751
Recd at Albany
29th June

To His Excellency
the Honble George Clinton Esqr
Captain General & Govr in Chief
of the Province of New York &c &c &c
at
Albany

Sir

Schonectady 27th June 1751

I think it my duty to acquaint your Excellency, that I arrived here last night, as the Sachims sent me before them to prepare Vituals and other Accomodations against their coming here: I find the Indians at Canojoharry to perform the Ceremony of Condolence on the death of some Sachims there. I Expect them all here to Morrow or Saturday at furthest, and hope to be with them in Albany on the day your Excellcy ordered me I am with the utmost respect.

Sir

your Excellcys most Obedient

Humble Servant

Arent Stevens

P.S. I hope your Excellcy will send an Order here, to prevent people from selling Spirritious Liquors to Indians, from this place to Albany.

Dr. Lewis
to Col. Johnson
from Albany 30 June
1751 minute
about the Boats &
Indian affairs

Sr Albany 30th June

His Excellency arrived here Last
Thursday ~~& all the Indians~~ and the
Commissioners from Massachusetts Bay and
Connecticut Friday, the Commissioner
came ~~the day before~~, ~~with six Cataubas &~~
pen Carolina
~~Conrad Weiser arrived~~ Conrad Weiser with
six of the Cataubas & their Interpreter came
with us, all the Indians are come in this
day so that there is nothing to hinder
his Excellency falling on business but
the want of the Books of Precedents
relating to Indian Affairs which he is
informed you have carryed up with you
he therefore desires, that you will
immediatly send them down Express, or
that you would come with them your
self, for as you was so good as to promise
to assist and advise him all in your power
you need not be any ways seen publick
in the Affair. I am certain if you could
come it would be taken exceeding kindly
His Excellency is much obliged to
Coll Johnson

Speech to the Queen

Mr Davis

July 1791

Children

I am pleased to see you here in this the ancient
& usual place of meeting together as you live among
the Settlements & quietly & peaceably you enjoy many
benefits thereby & as you are more easily assisted in
your wants & I expect you ought to be assisting to
the inhabitants as often as there shall be any
occasion for it & at all times live peaceably
& Lovingly among them

As the Covenant Chain has been always
been kept clear & bright between us & forefathers
& ours & I doubt not but you readily
me in strengthening it & cleansing it that it
may last as long as the sun & Moon shall
endure

a Belt

Six Nations
Albany

At a Meeting of His Excellency The Hon.ble George Clinton Capt.n General and Governour in Chief of the Province of New York &c.a with the Six Nation of Indians at Albany on Monday the first Day of July 1745

Present

His Excellency The Hon.ble George Clinton

The Hon.ble

Cadwallader Colden
James Alexander
James DeLancey
Edward Holland
} Esq.rs Councellors

His Excellency made the following Speech

Brethren

You are Welcome here I am Glad to see you and cannot but Heartily Condole with you on the Death of the Prince of Wales our Kings Son and the Loss of your Sachems and Others of your People whom it hath pleased God to take to himself Since your Last General meeting at this place that the tears may now be wiped off your Eyes and Sorrow removed from your Hearts that we may with Equall Vigour and Sincerity proceed to the Accomplishment of weighty Affairs we have now to transact as a Token of my hearty Regard for you and your Welfare and that of all your People I give you this String of Wampum

To which the Six Nations Answered

Brother Corlaer.

We are very Glad to see you here the Grief for the and our hearts for the Loss of the Prince of Wales the son and many of your Great men and Sachems Great that our Eyes are Ready to burst with

Tears but as Business is the Cause of our Meeting Let us Moderate our Grief and Wipe the Tears from off our Eyes that we may Duly Attend to publick Affairs —

A String of Wampum —

At a Meeting of his Excellency the Hono:ble George Clinton Captain Generall and Governour in Chief of the Province of New York &c. with the Canajoharie Nation of Indians at Albany on Tuesday the Second Day of July 1751 —

Present

His Excellency the Hono:ble George Clinton —

The Hono:ble
Cadwallader Colden
James Alexander
James De Lancey
Edward Holland
} Esq:rs Councellors —

The Christian Name of the Canajoharie Speech

Brother.

We hope you wont take it ill if We do not observe those measures you may be well assured that we are come upon no bad Design and the Cause of our Coming is our Trade we Did not know of your Excellencys being here till we Came near to Albany and as we found you here by Chance we thought it proper to wait upon you if we had known we should have found your Excellency here we Should have Brought Belts proper to have spoke with but as we Did not Expect your Excellency with a Bundle of Beaver such as we have taken in Hunting we thank God that he has Spared yours and our Lives and that we now have the pleasure of seeing your Excellency in Health — This

Visit is only as a Compliment to your Excellency and to Let you Know that we Intend to Return Home Immediately being to Sett out this Afternoon or to Morrow Morning

His Excellency's Speech to the Caenawagas

You are Welcome to this place, the path Shall be Kept, you Resort to this place — I Expect that you on your parts will take Care to Keep it Open and Clean and Remove any thing that may Obstruct it — but that you will at all times preserve the peace and Live in Friendship with all the King of Great Brittains Subjects and with your Brethren of the six Nations and Shall be well pleased if you would Return and Live with them as formerly — I Recommend Resolutely to you to prevent any ill Consequences —

How his Excellency Gave them

one 50 Rounds —
Six 50 of Eight, and
one Hogg of Rum

Mohawks Answer

We Return your Excellency Very Hearty Thanks for the present & what we Did not Expect from you we Came to see you only to pay our Compliments to your Excellency And we will as your Excellency Desires Live in peace with the Subjects of Britain and our Brethren the five Nations and Injure no person or their Cattle in their Return

At a Meeting of his Excellency The Hon.ble George Clinton Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Province of New York &c &c with the Six Nations of Indians at Albany on Tuesday the Second Day of July 1751

Present

His Excellency The Hon.ble George Clinton

The Hon.ble

Cadwallader Colden
James Alexander
James De Lancey
Edward Holland
} Esqrs Councellors

The Six Nations Speech

Brother Corlear

As this is the place of Consultation we are now Come to Consult with you as to Coll Johnson we doe Remember that when he was Broke out you recommended Coll Johnson to the Six Nations and told us what he Intended to Do there was if Coll Johnson told us we might Depend on it as much as if we had it from your Excellency and it is not Strang to us that Coll Johnson was first recommended to us by your Excellency as a person for our Information we were very much Shocked when Coll Johnson sent a Belt of Wampum through the Six Nations to Inform us that he Declined Joining any more with us and it was the more Terrible because he was well Acquainted with our publick Affairs we had him in as much as he was Like a Tree that Grew for our Use which Tree now seems to be falling Down tho it has many Roots this Knowledge of our Affairs made us think him one of the Cheif Indians and we are Greatly Afraid as he has Declined if your

Your Excellency will Appoint some person a Stranger both to me and our Affairs and we Give your Excellency this Belt of Wampum in order to Raise up the fallen Tree — We Desire to have an Answer to what we have said and that Colo Johnson may be Reinstated for he has Large Ears and hears a Great deal and what he hears he tells to me he also has Large Eyes and sees a Great way and Conceals nothing from me —

A String of Wampum —

Peter Fire is Kindled at Colo Johnsons which fire is now Going out and here Give a String of Wampum to have the Fire Increased —

We Desire his Excellency will please to Reinstate Colo Johnson or Else we Cannot to be Pleased —

They then Desired his Excellency would Order their Guns Hatchets and Shott to be mended which was Consented to —

At a Meeting of His Excellency The Honble George Clinton Capt Generall and Governour in Chief of the Province of New York &c with the Six Nations of Indians at Albany on Wednesday the third of July 1751 —

Present

His Excellency The Honble George Clinton —

The Honble

Cadwallader Colden
James Alexander
James DeLancey
Edward Holland
} Esqrs Councellors

Register of Condolance —

The Six Nations with their Interpreters came Down in a Canoe before his Excellency's Door Singing and Crying According to their Antient Customs and being Seated on Oneydah Chief

Chief Sachem walked Backwards and forwards before them Singing and was Every now and then Joind by a Cry of Approbation by all the Six Nations - and then they Spoke Thus —

Brother Corlaer

We Come to Speak in the Name of the Six Nations we heard news this Silence of the Death of the Prince of Wales the Kings Protestion the Grief that was on our Side as well as on your Excellencys Side for a Very Great as these are things that are Common we Ought not to Grieve too much as we have seen in wars as well as at other times lost a Great many Great people Let us Moderate our Grief as much as possible, We Give your Excellency this Belt of Wampum to Lay upon the Grave of the Prince and upon the Graves of the Other Friends that have Dyed Since the Last Meeting —

Brother Corlaer

Since our Last Meeting your Excellency has met with a Great many Misfortunes from the Indians and Canada Committed by our Common Enemy the French that Ground is Almost Dare Upon with it But Let us Cover their Graves with a Stone Upon which they Gave a Belt of Wampum —

Brother Corlaer

We the Six Nations Rejoice to see your Excellency at this Place where our Fire has always been Kept and that you and we are now met to Kindle the Fire Anew —

1 Belt of Wampum —

Brother Corlaer and all the Gent: in Authority

We hope that you will Join Hand and Heart in the Publick Interest if you should not it will be our Ruine Join and we must Suffer Greatly if we Do not Serve Kind and Faithfull to Each other and Duly Attend to

To the publick Interest 7

A Bell of Wampum

Brother Corlaer

Tahu Eacumsle from the Sun which Rises to Regular Course and no Error is Contain in its Motion Soe us so Certain to Each Other in the Counsels of our Affairs and not Deceive in the Least —

A Bell of Wampum

Brother Corlaer

Soe by this Belt we Renew and Confirm our Friendship and Alliance and Desire you to Speak the Truth to us for Business that we may Transact our Affairs with Honesty Fidelity and Sincerity —

A String of Wampum

Brother Corlaer

After what has passed it is a Custome amongst us to have a Large Fire to Smoke to Put our Imperfections into to which we Propose to Gather our Memorys —

A String of Wampum

To which his Excellency Answered —

Brethren

We you have Condoled with us for the Loss of his Royall Highness the Prince of Wales Soe now in my part Condole with you for the many Losses you have had in the Deaths of Sachems of the principall Sachems our Good friends and to Convince you how Sensible I am of your Great Loss I give Deliver you Twelve Belts Twelve Pair of Stockings and Twelve Shirts to Lay upon their Graves Desire Instead you to Grieve no more but Prepare your Selves to Attend the Publick Business — —

Brethren

Brethren

I am Sorry Heavily to you that you have Joined us in Condoling our Common Loss of the Princess of Wales your Brothers Decease

A String of Wampum

Brethren

I am well pleased that you are sensible of our Loss occasioned by the Murders and Barbarities Committed by our Common Enemy the French and Heavily grieve with

A Belt of Wampum

Brethren

I am glad to see you here in Order to Kindle the Fire that has been Kept Burning in this place as it has been Always Customary by our Forefathers

A Belt

Brethren

I am Come to this place with full Purpose to Join Council and Heart with you in promoting the Publick Interest and to do every thing in my power that may Tend towards it upon which you may Depend

A Belt of Wampum

Brethren

You tell me that I must take Example from the Regularity of the Iroquois and that we should be as Regular and punctual in Transacting our Affairs as the Sun in its Course which I faithfully promise you on my part

A Belt Wampum

Brethren

You say that you Have to endeavour Cleared and Levelled here as for Peace & Business that we may Transact our Affairs with Honesty Fidelity and Sincerity which I am Glad to hear and Shall on my part act with the Greatest Sincerity

A String of Wampum

Brethren

Brethren

you also tell us that you have a Custome among you to put all the News you receive in to a Large — Tobacco pouch and that when at any time you are dat a Loss for the News you have heard you feul your hands into the pouch and draw it out again Jam Smoth — pleased with the Care you take in preserving your News —

A String of Wampum —

Which Pleased his Excellency made the following answer to the Speech & Practice Customs of Brethren & giving Counsel —

Brethren

Capt. Johnson Desiring to continue in the management of the Indian Affairs as Agent suggesting reasons, and his Desiring to Resign at this time is Heard how because he Apprehends reasons to assist him in this Office at this Juncture to Continue by his Advice Guidance and Resolutely Resolves to Continue in the Management of your Affairs — and help it — you tell us that the first Appointment of Colo. Johnson to manage your Affairs was not owing to you but your Own Act afterwards & by Yourself to you Now since he Proposes to continue I must Appoint some others and — you may Depend upon it I shall take all the Care in my Power to Appoint proper persons for this Service & shall have your Interest Truly at Heart —

A Belt of Wampum

You have the more Reason to Trust to me in this — since Colo. Johnson is willing to Continue for you, this Appointment was not without my Recommendation to you — Again this thing to Remove all Jealousies on this Occasion

A String of Wampum

I Shall take Care to Light up a Fire for you in Some other place to which you may Readily Resort and to Keep it Burning all the Year that may any way Conduce you and where you may Safely Plan your Wants

A String of Wampum

To which the Six Nations Answered by Desiring to have Capt. Johnson Reinstated and that they might Provide his Cloathing Proceed to Albany to Join with a String of Wampum to Seal their Words which was Granted

N 3

At a Congress held by his Excellency the Honourable George Clinton Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Provinces of New York &c. &c. &c. with the Six Nations

At Albany the 6th Day of July 1751.

Present

His Excellency

The Hon.ble

Cadwallader Colden
James Alexander
James De Lancey
Edward Holland
} Esq.rs of the Council

The Commissioners from the Several Provinces

The Mayor and Corporation of Albany

And Several Officers of the Independant Company and Sundry Gentlemen of the City and the Commissioners upon this Occasion.

Where his Excellency Spoke to the Six Nations in the following Manner

Brethren

The Design of my meeting with you at this time is to
Renew

Brethren

Honour the Covenant Chain to Cleanse away all Rust to Brighten it and Strengthen it so that it may for ever Endure as this Chain has Lasted so Long and Secured us against the Designs of our Enemys who have at all times Endeavoured and are Still Endeavouring to Break it they would be Glad that we or you Should Let it Slip Let us then Hold it Fast with all our Strength and Secure it at both Ends —

A Belt —

Brethren

Commissioners from the Neighbouring Colonies of Massachusetts Bay and Connecticut have met you at this Council fire in this place from the Earliest time and wee now Condaguin tee o is alsº a Commissioner from South Carolina which Province being a Great way off Both wee and our Commissioners before this time, these Commissioners — are all Come hither to Assist us in Strengthening and — Securing of the Old Covenant Chain — Know by this — belt in Your Father the King of Great Brittains Name and in Behalf of all his Majesties Subjects in North America Renew and Confirm the Covenant Chain and all former Engagements of Love and Friendship between us and You, that they may Remain firm and Unshaken so Long as the Sun and Moon Shall Endure —

The Chain Belt —

Wee do now Give you this Belt as matter of Form to Signify that wee are one flesh one Blood &c.ª —

Brethren

One Great End and Purpose of this Chain is to Secure Trade and Commerce between us and You and by your Means with all the Nations of Indians which Lay to the West ward of you by these Means the Power and Authority of the Six Nations is Greatly Increased Among all their Neighbours so they must Come through your Countries to Carry on this Commerce — It is Necessary for them and that they see and Understand the Strength and Numbers of your —

Brethren

Your Brethren All over this Great Continent United together in this Covenant Chain they must have a Just Opinion of your Power - as the Stopping the Path Upon to this place from all the Indian Nations to the Westward of you is of so great Benefit to you as well as to the Common Interest for all I give this Belt to Intimate all Jaggs or other Rubbish that may Obstruct it -

A Belt -

Brethren

The Governour of Canada Dreads this Union of the Brethren with us and with the Distant Nations to the Westward - and Southward so far as the Union Mississipi - for this Reason he is Always Endeavouring to Break this Chain by Obstructing and Stopping the Trade and Commerce that is Between this place and the Far Indians who Supply their Countries, Jean Celat he is at this time Building a Fort on your Lands at Niagara to Stop the Indians in their way to Trade with us - If you should Suffer him to Do this The six Nations will become Deaf and Dumb in the Eyes of all the Neighbouring Nations for those Forts will be Like Bitts and Bridles in their Mouths by which you and the other Indian Nations must turn and go as the Governour of Canada pleases Your Brethren the English in this no Attempts on you to Restrain your Liberty of Going to Trade where you Like Best and where you Can be Served Best Whereas those Forts which the French Build are to take this Liberty from the other Nations - and to force them to go to Canada and thereby to with draw their Love and Friendship from us and You and to make them our Enemys Wherefore by this Belt in the Name of your Father the King I desire and Require of you that as Soon as possible you send a Proper number of Your men to Onagara to Oblige the French to forbear their Erecting any Forts or other Buildings

the

Throw out this or any where Else on your Lands and to Demolish what is Already Built it will Cost much Easier to prevent their Being Built than to pull them Down afterwards

A Belt

Brethren

Another Artifice the Enemys of our Covenant Chain make use of is to Excite Variance and Warr Between the Several Indian Nations that are united with your Brethren the English in the Several parts of this Great Continent Nothing Can so Effectually Weaken and at Last Entirely Destroy the Brethren as their falling out Among themselves and Mutually Killing and Destroying one Another this is Doing the Work of your Enemys while they sit Looking on and Laugh at your folly, All the Indian Nations united in Friendship with Carolina Virginia Maryland Pensylvania this Government Connecticut Massachusetts Bay and New Hampshire were Truly and firmly United in the same Councills with Love and Friendship how Great would that Person be what Dread must it Strike on your Enemys and who would Dare Attempt to Hurt them In Order to Accomplish this so much to be Desired Union I have Several times Spoke upon the Governour of South Carolina to Send a Gentleman to this place from you and I Did Write and to Send with him Six of the Chiefs of the Catawbas who are now in this City Ready to make Peace with you and to Become your fast Friends and to unite with you in our Common Cause as in your former Treaties in this place you Desired and Solemnly promised to Receive them as one flesh and Blood with you on their Coming to it I therefore by this Belt Excite you to Lay Hold of this proffered peace and Friendship with the Catawbas - It must tend to Strengthening the

The Covenant Chain and the Common Interest of
all I can no Longer Bear to see those who are
our Brethren on Shilling and Destroying one Another
and therefore I cannot Doubt of your Chearfully
Agreeing to what I now propose —

A Belt of Wampum

Brethren

I design in a little time to pass over the Great
Water to the King your father I perswade myself
that your Ready Complyance with what I now
Require of you will Enable me to Recommend you
to his favour and that I may tell the King of this
Encouragemt other Instances of your Dutyfullness
to him and thereby Secure to you his protection
And as the time of my Imbarquing Draws near
I must Recommend to you all possible Dispatch
to the Affairs now Before you —

A Belt —

The Six Nations Answered as his Excellency Did
Desired dispatch they would if possible prepare
an Answer to give this afternoon —

No 4.

Answer of the Six Nations to his Excellency
the Honourable George Clinton Capt Generall
and Governour in Chief in and over the
Province of New York &c

At Albany the Eighth Day of July 1751

Present

His Excellency

The Hon.ble

Lt Coll Colden
James Alexander
James De Lancey
Edward Holland
} Esqrs of the Council,

The Commissioners from the several Governments
The Mayor and Corporation of Albany

And several Officers of the Independent Companys and
Gent from New York Attending his Excellency and
the Commissioners upon this Occasion

Brother Corlaer

We are now met at the Appointed time to make an
Answer and Desire to know whether your Excellency is
ready to hear us & to which we beg an Answer from you

Brother Corlaer

It is a long time since we heard the pleasure
of seeing your Excellency at this place & Covenant chain
and we wish more Answer your Excellency's speech was ready
by yesterday

Brother Corlaer

As your Excellency with the Commissioners from
Massachusetts Bay Connecticut and Carolina are come
to renew the Covenant Chain with the Six Nations
and also Condescend to Join your Excellency and those
Commissioners in that Good Design and to day that we

We Shall Remain Inseperable by any Accidents of this
world for that Neither Thunder Lightning or the
Falling of Trees Consopernadoes

A Belt—

Brother Cohees

Ch the Cowes Issued from Cowlitz Cowes
Seen here before the Onigtogo Onaquaweus and
Chiugas Used & Used to give him a Cane that if
for Ever to Come we Should have Occasion to talk of
him we may Know who we mean and have Cane
Tree Name (Michinonga) and Hope he will Always
Gratefully Feel in his Breast the Cowes and Cane

A Belt—

Brother Cohees

By the Ch Cowes and see we are Heart and Blood and
one Head and we Hereby Join Cowlitz & Chinooq
this Covenant and we Shall Remain as one for if any
Nation is Hostile Shall be Hostile

A Belt

Brother Cohees

Your Excellency Desired to Discover
Interest Among the Ind Before we Came from your
Excellency that we Found Out it and Still Continued
to do it Many got mind Cowlitz & the Ind Nations
Called at Cowlitz & Make Acknowledge themselves
Subjects to the King of Great Britain and have
Built a Shed and Put Guns to Strengthen themselves
and Secure the English Trade and Agreable to your
Excellency's Desire do Shall Discover our Interest as
much as possible

A Belt—

Brother Cohees

Your Excellency also Desired we Should Send some of
our men to Forbid the French Building any Forts at
Onondaga and we now Inform your Excellency that

That the Reason of the Onondagahs Going to Canada was with that View as the Lands was the property of that Nation and at their Return we Expect an Answer whether they will Desist or no Which we Shall take Care to Let your Excellency Know of and if they do not Stop we Shall do as your Excellency Directs and go Stand off such Nation and forbid the Building of those forts —

1 Belt —

Brother Corlaer

As your Excellency Desire Heron have as you to Invite Seven with the Cohnawas we Let your Excellency know we Wanted to see and Talk with them but as your Excellency Informs us that they are now here we are to Sing to see them and hear them Talk and then we shall Examin it with all Moderation, and as your Excellency Let us Hear the French Druged down Belonging one another we are Convinced of the Truth of it and Shall Carry Justice of it when we hear the Cohnawas —

1 Belt —

Brother Corlaer

It might have been of Good Consequence for us that your Excellency Hay Invited us of your Coming over the Great Water and as we Know of your Coming we wish you a Prosperous Voyage it is a Dangerous Passage therefore we pray to the Great Spirit of Heaven to Protect you and Carry your Ship Over we Shall be Glad to hear of your Safe Arrival as your Excellency has promised us and Desired we may Let you know what we Intend to do Which we do not Recommend to our Father the King which we do not Doubt but you will Expect we Return your Excellency our Hearty Thanks for your Promise & as your Excellency has been so good as to Inform us of your Coming over the Great Water we Desire your Excellency will Carry a Message from us and Inform the King our Father that —

That the French are endeavouring to take away our Lands and Build forts on them and Begg that the King will Inform the King of France of the proceedings of his Subjects that he may put a Stop to it for that the Land belongs to the King our Father and the Governour of this province

Brother Corlear

We would send another Message by you that is that the King our father would Recommend Col Johnson unto us And as you are now Bound to Albany we also have not Chose any person with whom we may Transact our affairs in the Interim but we hope you will Appoint some person to whom we may Speak our Minds and from whom we may Receive News during our Stay

A Belt

Brother Corlear

We have now finished our Business

We Return his Excellency our hearty Thanks for his Private Presents given to us

Viz. a Suit Cloths, and Lined Shirt and Stockings

Viz. a Scarlet Coat, Hatt, and Buckles

Two Silver

And Among them and the Rest of the Warriors

2 p.s Shoulds
3 p.s Half Tribes
14 L.s Cotton
12 Shirts
12 Guns
60 Flints
9 lb Powder
1 Box & ½ Bayonets Scabbards
1 Doz.n Knives
24 lb Lead
28 lb Tobacco
12 Hatchets

When Nicholas the Mohock returned his Excellency Thanks and said he was Obliged to his Excellency for Considering them Headships in the War

The Speech of Mr Bull the Commissioner from South Carolina to the Six Nations —

My Brethren the Sachems and Warriours of the Six Nations

Govr Clinton having Kindled a Council fire at Albany and Invited the English Governours and Indians to it I am Come a Long way on the Great sea from South Carolina to talk with you at it and as no Governour & Commissioner from that province hath Ever Stood Hand with you at Albany before, I give you this Belt of Wampum to tell you I am Glad to see you and to Shake Hands with you, that you may Know me and Open your Ears to hear what I have to say to you —

A Belt

The Governour of South Carolina Intended to have Come himself to See you, but as there were Some Bad Talks from the Cherokee Nation wch they Designed to Stop the path by Killing and plundering the English Traders in that Nation, the Governour Resolved to Stay to Take Care of his people and in Case any Mischief Should be done by the Cherokees Immediately to Carry it over into Such of their towns as Should be Concerned in it He has therefore sent me one of the Beloved men to talk for him and gave me this Good Belt which I have in my Hand to Deliver in particular from himself to you to be Confirmed by the Great Seal to it that you Know it is a Strong Belt for this Seal has Every thing Strong to which it is fastned it shall be read to you now and to may be Read to your Children after you Shall not Well Read the Governour of Carolina's Letter to the Six Nations Dated in the End of this Book) Brethren with this Belt I Deliver this Belt of Wampum to Confirm the Matters therein Recommended to you —

A Belt Brethren

Brethren

A make my heart and Every English Heard Glad to see
Indians who are friends to the English Continuing at
peace with Each Other it is Almost Like Shutting
the Hatchett in to your Brethren the English - This can
be pleasing only to our Enemys - you my Brethren
of the six Nations are all Good friends to the English
and the Cherokees the Chickasaws the Creeks the Choctaws
some of the Upper and the Small Tribes of Indians
Living in our Settlements are also good friends to the
English it is very good and therefore our Desire that
all the Indians who are friends to the English should
be friends to Each other and be Included in the Last
Treaty Chain which Holds the English and the Six
United Nations together - I am now Commanded to say
with the Assistance of the Governors of Rhode Island and the
Commissioners from Massachusetts Bay and Connecticut
to Renew the Old Covenant Chain for that purpose
to Plant the Tree of Peace it Always to be Green Like
the Cedar it may its Roots Spread so Strong in the Earth
that Nothing from the Great Lakes or Great Rivers Above
the French are Called Shall be Able to Blow it Down may
its Branches Spread wide in the Air that your Nations
Nations and your Allies may sit friendly under the
Shade of it with the Cherokees Creeks Chickasaws
Choctaws Upper Towns and the Small Tribes Living in
Allegheny and there Smoke together and may the Hatchett
and All that is past be Buried so Deep under Ground
that no Person who Desires to dig it up may find it
Then the time which you may spend in Going to war
against our Indian Brethren may be Usefully Employed
against our Common Enemys or in Hunting that you
may Buy Plenty of Goods for your Selves your Wives

and

your Children this will be very Agreeable to the Great Being George who Likes an good Father is Grieved to see his Children destroy Each other but is pleased when he sees them Stand to one Another — To insure this from us all I give you this Belt of Wampum —

Brothers

The South Carolinas is so far Distant from Albany — yet I have brought some Presents for you from that — Government which tho you will receive as a Testimony of the Friendship which that province bears for our Brethren the six Nations, I recd them in my Hand and they shall be Delivered when Governor Clinton meets you to confirm this Treaty — I give you this String of Wampum —

My Brethren the Sachems and Warriors of the six Nations

I have heard what the Governor — Governor Clinton has said Concerning a Peace and that the Governor the Governor of South Carolina hath sent to you and also what I have now said you will Hear not what the Chiefs of the Catawbas who Came here with me will say they Come to this Council fire at Albany to meet you in Order to make Peace with you they Know it is the Desire of the English that Peace should be made between you and you know it is the Desire of the English also. To Show your Love I give you this Belt of Wampum —

Here the Catawbas Came Down from their Quarters singing with their Colours painted to the Ground and having Let their Pipes the King and Queen put them into the Mouths of the Chief Sachems of the six Nations who Smoaked out of them —

and —

one.) NEWBERRY LIBRARY, CHICAGO, IL., AYER MS, N.A. 656.

(2r)

And then Spoke to them as Follows —

Friends

I Last year with the Advice of my Great men Determined to make a peace with you and Set out for that purpose but was taken sick by the way which Hindered me Then Sent Resolution remained in my Heart and the Govnr of Carolina Agreeing with me Enquested to send a Vessel to Newyork that we might meet you there at this time which Greatly Rejoiced me and when I came away my Towns all Spoke Friends with me and Desired me for them to make a peace and Signe this Belt which has all my Towns upon it Signifying that they all Join in my Desire —

We are all Friends with the English and Desire to be so with our Brothers the Six Nations and as Some of Your people are now out that do not Know of the peace when they are all Returned and the Earth Clear and Clear so I will Come to your Towns and Houses and Smoke with you as I would in my Own —

[I Hand the String first and then the other Belt and Spoke Friends with the Six Nations]

To which the Six Nations Answered

Brethren

We are Glad to see you here and Return you Thanks for your Kind Speech but as it is a thing of Consequence must take time to Consider of it and shall answer you this Evening or to Morrow Morning —

When Sir Ca Colleton told the Six Nations he would give them their Presents when they had Answered the Catawbas —

The Answer of the Six Nations to the Speech of Mr Bull the Commissioner from South Carolina —

At Albany the tenth of July 1751 —

Present

His Excellency the Honble George Clinton Esq —

The Honble

Cadwallader Colden
James Alexander
James DeLancey
Edward Holland
William Johnston
} Esqrs of the Council

The Commissioners from the several provinces —
The Mayor and Corporation of Albany —

And several Officers of the Independant Company and other Gent from New York attending his Excellency and the Commissioners on this occasion —

The Catawbas being Come Down from their Quarters —

The Chief Sachem of the Senecas Lit a pipe and distributed to the Mouths of Each of the Catawbas who Smoked out of it and then he returned it Among the six Nations —

And then the six Nations began —

Brother Corlirio & Aniehwaroga

In Answer to the first paragraph of Mr Bulls Speech —

We Return him thanks for his Kind Speech and Desire that he will be faithfull and Honest in holding fast the Covenant Chain — A Belt —

Aniehwaroga to 2d Paragraph

We thank you Kindly for the Governour of Carolinas Letter and Shall preserve it in our Bosom —

Brother

Brother Cowkeeper and Others Onondaky Nichwaunaga

We Kindly thank your Excellency and the Other Gentlemen
Uneasiness they Express at the Indians Murdering one and
and we Consent that the Ketchet be buried where no
Notice of person can find it — A Belt

Brother Cowkeeper and Others the Commissioners

Nichwaunaga the other Day by a Belt of Wampum
told us that he Came here to plant a tree of Peace that the
English and Indians might sit in peace under it we thank
you for your good Design and Heartily Join you in it and
may it Grow Large and Last forever — A Belt

Brother Cowkeeper &c.

Nichwaunaga Also told us that he brought with him
one of his brethren the Catawbas and gave us a Belt to Open
our Ears to hear them we have heard them and thank him
for his Advice A Belt —

Brother Cowkeeper and Others

Nichwaunaga further told us that altho he Came
a great way he brought some thing in his Person as a
present for us and to Remind him that we gave
him String of Wampum

Brother Cowkeeper

It is but a few Days ago we Desired you to Remove the
Falling Tree Nichwaunaga (Col Johnson Meaning) and
Leave us Some person to Remove our Affairs with the Goods
at Oswego we do Hear that we Cannot Buy them and
Desire your Excellency will Order them to be Sold Cheaper
as it will be a Means of Strengthening the Covenant Chain
A String of Wampum

Whom the Six Nations Spoke to the Catawbas as follows

Brethren the Catawbas

you Came to our Door and Fire to Make Peace with us
and we have heard your Kind Speech and Thank you for
and

And as a token that you Came to make peace and was Received as our
friends we give you this white Belt of Wampum to wear
About your Neckes that all that see it may Know that you
have been Received as our friends

Between the Catawbas

Thus Sowes to Shake you more powerfull and give
you that Power it Has been a Custom among all the Indian
Nations that when they Come to make peace they bring
some prisoners with them and when you Return with
prisoners the peace Shall be Compleated and your Wounds
Lengthened and we give you a Year to Return with the
prisoners and if you do not Come in that time we Shall
Look upon the peace as Void

Between the Catawbas

We will take your pipe and to the Mohawks Castle being
the first town you Come to eat and Drink and Smoke
and Thirdly if you and not goout to warr if you Return
within the time appointed by us

Here the Catawbas Smoked

I have Long wished for a peace with you these Nations
but never had an Opportunity till now and as it is
Compleated before his Excellency and these Commissioners
and the Belt past I shall wear it About my Neck as a
token of Friendship

It is a right and good Custome that prisoners Should be
Exchanged in Making a peace and If you send some
of your people with me I will Carry them to my own
house and they Shall Live as I do and I will then Deliver
all the prisoners I have to them and Come with them and Conduct
them Safe to their own Doors

Between the Catawbas

As to your Request of Sending some of our people
to your Country it is Unprecedented and what never
was Done at the first time of Meeting and Now of-

Of our people are prepared to go thereforo we Could Agree
it But we may at the Second time Send some of our
people with you — Three Catawbas Answered —
to Compleat this peace
we shall come in a Short time to your Towns and you
may Expect to see us —
Six Nations Answered —

Brethren the Catawbas

we Desired when you came again you Could bring with
that we may Bury you to be Heard,
and bring a Consumation with you from the rest and Small
Nations which are in Conjunction with us that may not
Think of this peace — for both may be Disagreeable
and Destroy what is now Done but if you Come to this
place you be Safe —
Then his Excy Spoke to the Six Nations as follows —

Brethren

I am Glad to be Informed by you of the Success of your —
Last endeavours to Engage and Interest among
other Nations — That you have Received Kind Treatment to
the Governor Chain, and that they have Returned you
Heir as Loos Subjects of the King of great Britain —
I Approve of what you have Done and hope you will
Continue your Endeavours for those purposes and I
shall Give no ear to any Motion to Court Pay before the
King your Father what you have Desired and to say in
Relation to Coll Johnson and I can add no more than
what I have Already told you — I have Constantly
given Orders that goods be sold as Cheap at Oswego
as the Traders Can afford them —
To which the Six Nations Answered —

Brother Corlaer

We Desire Coll Johnson may be Present at
for as there is some of the Six Nations gone to Canada a
the French Building a Fort at Niagara miles
Some person for us to go to you Cannot Expect to hear
answer they Bring —

Which his Excell.y Answered telling them that on his
Return to New York he would Advise with the Council
as to the Superintendent of some person for their Affairs //

And then Ordered the Presents Outand gave
them and at the same time Mr Bull gave his

The Governour of South Carolina to his Friends and
Brothers the Chiefs of the Creek Nations and Other Indians
Meeting at Mary.

Loving Friends and Brothers

The Creek many Nations of Indians in Alliance
with this Government the Cherokees the Catabas the Chickesaws
the Catawbas and a great part of the Chactaws besides many
Tribes that are In Confederacy with some of these Nations or
that Live peaceably in our Settlements the Shawanas Euchees
Natchez Pedees Cape Fears Hoccaws and Others and as
they are Friends to the English it has been my Constant
Endeavour to keep them Friends with one another. This
French and Spanish Intrigues and Language to get an Interest
among them and to Debauch their Affections from us
but finding their Attempts were Vain their next Design
has been to stir up Strife and to Kindle the Flame of War
amongst them thereby to weaken them so as they may
become an Easy prey to them and in this they have
been too successfull; having blown up a Bloody War a first
between the Creeks and Cherokees after third Extinguished
it and tho' happily Healed those wounds that had been
too Long Bleeding However I hope I shall still Reconcile
all their Differences and it would give me an Equall
pleasure

Pleasure if I could Contribute in Conjunction with the Governour of New York to Adjust and Settle the differences that have so Long subsisted between the six Nations and other Indians to the North ward and the Catawbas Creeks and Other Southward Indians I have some time ago talked to the Catawbas upon this Subject in the presence of Some of them who go with this Letter and their King would have been at Albany a year and an half ago had not Death prevented him however the King and the head men and all the Nation in General are very desirous to Bury in Eternall Oblivion all that has passed on Either side so that the same may never in time to Come be Mentioned or thought of and are willing or Desirous to Make a peace and to bind themselves in One Chain of Friendship with their Brothers of the six Nations and the other Southward Indians the one End to be kept by the Governour of New York and the other End by the Govr. of So Carolina and Hope you'l agree to it and I have sent Some Presents of such things as I thought you might have occasion for to Bind the Treaty not only between you and the Catawbas but between you and the Creeks and all Southern Indians, may the Chain Never Contract any Rust but Bright Like the sun in the Firmament and may the peace Last while the sun Endures —

I am
my Very good Friends
your Loving Brother
James Glen Govr So Carolina

South Carolina
May 21. 1751 —

the place of the Great Seal of the Province of South Carolina

in Consideration my misfortunes, and what engages me to take the Liberty to send you this Letter & the News Paper, in order that you might See a true Idea of my affair, if the Persons that it Concerns had not fund it so, they would have it Contradicted; I heard that severall Governors should meet at Albany with his Excellency Clinton, if you would be so good to do me the favour to lay my Case before them, I am persuaded they would have Compassion of my hard situation I can't think that the English Laws permit to put a stranger in Prison without reason, and there to lett him perish of misery, not allowing him so much as bread & water; if the under shriff had not taken compassion of me, I should actualy starved. I hope Sir you'll do me the favour to represent my Case to them Gentlemen, and I shall for ever be obligated to you, since I have the honour to be with due Consideration Sir

Your most humble
and obed^{t}. Servant
LE CHEVAL^{R}. DE S^{T}. LEGER

THE SIX NATIONS AND JOHNSON[1]

D.

At a Council held at Albany the 2^{d} day of July 1751.

Present

His Excellency the Honble. George Clinton
Cadwallader Colden
James Alexander
The Honble. James De Lancey Esq^{rs}.
Edward Holland

. . .

The Six Nations haveing desired a private Conference with his Excellency, that they had something to say to him that was agreed to this morning in their Councils.

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[1] Council Minutes, 21:430–34.

They were called in, and Hendrick their Speaker for that time spoke to the following purpose.

Brother Corlear.

As this is the place of consultation, we are now come to consult with regard to Coll. Johnson, we well remember that when the War broke Out, you recommended Coll. Johnson to the Six Nations, and told us that whatever private News there was, if Coll. Johnson told us, we might depend on it, as much as if we had it from your Excellency; and it is not owing to us that Coll. Johnson was first recommended to us by your Excellency as a person for our information. We were very much shocked when Coll. Johnson sent a Belt of Wampum through the Six Nations, to Inform us that he declined acting any more with us, and it was the more Terrible, because he was well acquainted with our publick Affairs. We had in War time when he was Like a Tree, that grew for our use, which now seems to be falling down, tho it has many roots; his knowledge of our affairs made us think him one of us (an Indian) and we are greatly afraid, as he has declined, your Excellency will appoint some person, a stranger both to us and our Affairs; and we give your Excellency this Belt of Wampum in order to raise up the falling Tree.

We desire to have an answer to what we have said and that Coll. Johnson may be reinstated, for he has large Ears and heareth a great deal, and what he hears he tells to us; he also has Large Eyes and sees a great way, and conceals nothing from us.

A String of Wampum.

Our fire is kindled at Coll. Johnson's, which fire is now a going out, and here they gave a string of Wampum to have the fire renewed.

We desire his Excellency will be pleased to reinstate Coll. Johnson or else we expect to be ruined.

They then desired his Excellency would be pleased to order their Guns, Hatchetts and Kettles to be mended, which was consented to.

They then desired his Excellency's answer to their speech relating to Coll. Johnson.

At a Council held at Albany the third day of July 1751.

Present:

His Excellency the Honble. George Clinton
Cadwallader Colden
James Alexander
The Honble. James De Lancey Esq^rs^.
Edward Holland

After the Indians had made a publick condolence on the death of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and after his Excellency had condoled them upon the death of their Sachims, since the last time he had mett them in this place. He directed them to send in two or three of the principal Sachims of each Nation, to receive his answer to what they said yesterday relating to Coll. Johnson whereupon Eighteen of them came into Council, and his Excellency spoke to them in the following words.

Bretheren

Coll. Johnson's declining to continue in the Management of the Indian Affairs was against my Inclination, and his declining to assist me at this time, is unexpected to me, because he gave me reason to expect him in this place at this Interview, to assist me by his advice; but since he absolutely refuses to continue in the Management of your affairs, I cannot help it. You tell me that the first appointment of Coll. Johnson to manage your affairs, was not owing to you. but you found him afterwards very useful to you. Now since he refuses to continue, I must appoint some others. And you may depend upon it, I shall take all the care in my power to appoint proper persons for this service, who will have your Interest truely at Heart. A Belt of Wampum.

You have the more reason to trust to me in this, since Coll. Johnson has been so carefull of you, tho his appointment was without any recommendation from you, I give this string to

remove all Jealousies on this Occasion. A String of Wamp[um.]

I shall take care to light up a Fire for you, in some other place, to which you may freely resort, and be kept warm, and hear all the news that may any ways concern you; and where you may safely open your heads. A String of Wampum.

To which the Six Nations answered, That the one half of Coll°. Johnson belonged to his Excellency, and the other to them; and since his Excellency could not prevail on Coll. Johnson to come down, they desired leave to send a Messenger with a string of Wampum to try what they could do; to which his Excellency consented; provided it did not Occasion any unnecessary delay and they said they would send a person who should go sooner than a Horse.

. . .

At a Council held at Albany the fifth day of July 1751.

Present

His Excellency the Honble. George Clinton
Cadwallader Colden
James Alexander
The Honourable James De Lancey Esq^rs^.
Edward Holland

The Indian Messenger, whom His Excellency permitted the Indians to send for Coll. Johnson, having yesterday mett him on this side of Schnectady, on his way to this place, where he arrived Last night; he was now called into Council and his Excellency requested him to continue the Management of the Indian Affairs for that the Indians were very uneasy at his declining further to act therein.

To which Coll. Johnson answered to this purpose Vizt. That it was impossible for him to continue any longer in the Management of Indian Affairs, without a very great detriment, if not ruin, to him in his private Fortune, as well as a very great fatigue to his person. For that before the third day of November 1748,

he had (of his private Fortune) advanced in the Management of Indian Affairs, and for the Supply of the Garrison at Oswego, after Others had declined supplying it, because of the War, to the Value of £7177. 3. 2¾, of which the accounts had been from time to time duely sworn to by him, and delivered into the Assembly but they only made provision for the payment of £5801. 7. 4. thereof, so that there remains £1375. 15. 10¾ without any provision as yet made by the Assembly for the payment thereof, that he has never heard of any Objection made by the Assembly to his Accounts, nor of any reasons why the Assembly have from time to time delayed the makeing provision for the payment of the said £1375. 15. 10¾. That of the £5801. 7. 4. which the Assembly have made provision for the payment of, and for which he had warrant on the Treasurer many years agoe, there remains £2404 as yet unpaid, tho often demanded, and tho he has good reason to believe, that the duties on the Trade to Oswego (the fund out of which the said Warrants are to be paid) are fully sufficient to pay all that is ordered to be paid out of them, and tho he is well assured that Warrants to others, of several years later date, upon the same fund, have been paid; nor has there ever been any provision made to compensate him for delay of payment after his advances.

That on and since the third day of November 1748 at his Excellency's request, he has advanced of his own private Fortune, in the Management of the Indian Affairs, to the Value of £595. 12. 8. as by an account sworn to by him (ready to be produced) of which he has received no part, nor does he know of any provision made for the payment thereof.

That it is impossible to continue in the Management of the Indian Affairs, without great advances, besides his own trouble, and as there is so much already in arrear to him, his further Continuance in that management, will increase those Arrears, without a Certainty of a Speedy payment.

That he would be willing to do all the service in his power to this Government, in the matter proposed, were he enabled to do

it, but from what is past he has no reason to depend on any thing from the Assembly for that purpose.

The Council advised his Excellency to desire Coll. Johnson to continue in the Management of the Indian affairs, at least during the Continuance of the present Treaty with them, and that his Excellency would be pleased, on his return to England, to represent to his Majesty the uncommon and great Sufferings Coll. Johnson has had in his Zealous Service of the Crown, the Losses he has sustained in his private Fortune thereby, and that suitable Recompense be given him, not only for the money he has advanced, but Likewise for the great fatigue and dangers he has personally undergone in this service for which he has not made any charge in his Accounts.

Afterwards His Excellency informed the Council, that he had Communicated the advice of the Council to Coll. Johnson and that he had promised to give all the assistance in his power during the present Treaty; but that he declined being sworn of the Council, as sitting as a Councillor, would occasion an Extraordinary expence on him, as the Indians would thereby imagine that he was continued in the Management of the Indian Affairs, and that he was enabled to perform the same on the publick charge.

LETTERS TO AND FROM JOHNSON AND OTHER PAPERS

In *Doc Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:726, in a conference, of July 6–10, between Governor Clinton and the Six Nations, is a request of the Indians for Johnson's reinstatement as agent; p. 729, a letter of the 27th from Johnson to Clinton, giving intelligence of a French hostile movement toward the west; p. 729–30, a letter of July 10th from John Lindesay, at Oswego, to Johnson, with information of a French design; p. 730, a letter of July 19th from Benjamin Stoddert, at Oswego, to Johnson, regarding French purpose to attack western nations; p. 739–41, in Cadwallader Colden's review, dated August 8th, of the state of Indian affairs, is a sketch of Johnson's relation to those affairs prior to his resignation of their control. In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:623–24, is a letter of July 15th from John Lindesay to Johnson, conveying information of Indian defection and the landing of a French and Indian force at Niagara.

The Seperate Sheet

at a Court held at Salisbury July 5th 1751

Present The Rt Hon George Earl of

The Hon Edward Carteret
James Alexander
James Murray
Edward Harding
} Esqrs

The Grand Jurors Returned Their Bill of Indictment against Thomas Jennings for Stealing a Negro Man Named Jack the property of Solomon Shubael Esqr and not being Willing to find Guilty the Said Negro Man Named Jack was Called to the Grand Jury Bar and Solomon Shubael Esqr Appearing in the Court House the Indictment of the Grand Jury was Read to him and he Desired Time to Consider of the Same which was Granted him and he Desired Leave to Withdraw

Ordered that Edward Harding Esqr Assigned Counsel for the Said Negro Man Jack

X That he has never heard of any objections made by the Assembly to his claim nothing reason why the Assembly have refused to have allowed the money claimed for the payment of the said £3 4 15 10 3/4

⊗ That the owner of the hides to whom they were paid is fully sufficient to pay all that is owing for the said hides and he is still willing

by the Assembly for the payment thereof X That of the £801 7 4 which the Assembly has made provision for the payment of for which he has warrants in his Treasurer many years since there remains £243 4 yet unpaid. To which he answered and that he has good reason to believe ⊗ that warrants to others of the same Date were paid, nor does there appear to be sufficient reason for the delay of payment of his Demands

That the said Sum of £243 4 is justly due and owing to the Said Deponent as he verily believes from the Examination of the Books and Papers produced, of which he has received a Copy and that no Sum of any Description made for the payment thereof

That it is impossible to ascertain the Number of Negroes which have been exported from this Island since the Year 1768, and the Number now remaining in the Island, for the Reasons mentioned in the Answer of the Governor and Council to the Address of the House of Assembly of the 19th of January 1775 and that he has been informed and believes that the Number of Negroes exported from this Island since the Year 1768 to the Year 1773 both inclusive amounted to upwards of Twenty Thousand

by this Deponent that he has been informed and believes that the Number of Negroes exported from this Island from the Year

That he would do nothing to
do all the Indians in his power
to the Government, ~~[illegible]~~
in the most friendly manner he
could & that he did. That when
a part of his men was to Depart
on any thing from the Council
he would propose. The Council
advised his Excellency to desire Coll
Johnson to continue in the Management
of the Indian affairs at least during
the continuance of the present Treaty
with them & that his Excellency would
be pleased on his return to England
to represent to his Majesty the me
ritorious [illegible] that Johnson has
Service of the Crown. the Expences he has
sustained in his private fortune during
& that suitable recompence be given
him not only for the Money he has
advanced but
fatigue & danger
his Service for which he has not
made any charge on his Accounts

Afterwards his Excellency informed the
Council that he had communicated the advice
of Council to Coll Johnson & that he had
promised to give all the assistance in
his power during the present Treaty but
that he declined being sworn of the Council.
& sitting as a Councillor because that his
ap

appearing in his seat as a Counsellor was
occasion an extraordinary expence on him
as the Indians would thereby imagine that
he was continued in the Management of
the Indian affairs & that he was enable
to perform the same on the footing that

Albany 1751

Albany July ye 5. 1751

Sir,

The conference, which your Excelleney was informed of, held at my Desire between Mr Arent Stevens Mr Weiser, & Hendric Peter the Mohawk, having produced the inclosed speech as what would be expected from the Catawbas by the Six Nations in order to conclude a lasting Peace, I thought it proper to communicate the same to your Excellency, before any thing therein is mentioned to any other Person

At the same time I beg leave to acquaint your Excell^{y}. that as it will be necessary for me to make a Speech to the Six Nations upon this occasion, as also to deliver a Speech or letter from Governor Glen under his Majesty's great Seal of South Carolina to them, I must desire your Excellency's Permission to do it, as soon as the Six Nations have made their Answer to your Speech this Day delivered unto them, which your Excell^{cy}. may think it proper at that time to speak again to them; And that I am ready to communicate to your Excellency the said Speech sent by Governor Glen, as also the Speech which I purpose to speak my self, whenever

you desire to see them. I am with the greatest Respect

Sir

Yr Excellencys

most obed't

humble Servant

Wm Bull

To his Excellency George Clinton Esq.
Governor of New York, & Admiral of
his Majesty's Squadron of the whole

Conference between Governor Clinton and the Indians.

[New-York Council Minutes in Secretary's Office, Albany, XXI, 443—452.]

Propositions made by his Excellency The Honourable George Glinton Captain General and Governor In Chief in and Over the Province of New York &c[a] To the Six Nations.

At Albany the 6th Day of July 1751.

PRESENT—His Excellency

The Hono[ble] Cadwallader Colden James Alexander James De Lancey Edward Holland	Esq[rs] of the Council
Jacob Wendell Joseph Dwight Oliver Partridge	Commissioners for the Province of the Massachusetts Bay.
William Pitkin John Chester	Commissioners for the Colony of Connecticut
W[m] Bull Junior	Commissioner for the Province of South Carolina

The Mayor and Corporation of Albany

And Several Officers of the Independant Company's, and Gen[t] from New York, attending his Excellency and the Commissioners upon this Occasion.

Bretheren

The design of my meeting with you at this time, is to renew the Covenant Chain, to Cleanse away all rust, to Brighten it, and Strengthen it; so that it may forever Indure: as this Chain has Lasted so Long and Secured us against the Designs of our Enemys, who have at all times Indeavoured, and are still Endeavouring to Break it, they would be Glad that we, or you, should let it Slip. Let us then hold it fast, with all our Strength, and Secure it at both Ends—

A Belt

Bretheren

Commissioners from the Neighbouring Colonies of Massachusets Bay, and Connecticut, have met you at this Council fire in this place, from the Earliest time, and are now Come again; here is also a Commissioner from South Carolina, which province being a great way off, hath never sent any Commissioner before this time. These Commissioners are all Come hither to assist us, in Strengthening, and holding fast the Old Covenant Chain. I now by this Belt in your father the King of Great Brittain's Name, and in Behalf of all his Majesties Subjects in North America, renew and Confirm the Covenant Chain, and all former Engagements of Love and friendship between us and you, that they may remain firm & unshaken so Long as the Sun and Moon shall Endure.

The Chain Belt

Bretheren

One great End and purpose of this Chain, is to secure trade and Commerce Between us and you, and by your means, with all the Nations of Indians which Lay to the westward of you;

by these means the power and Authority of the Six Nations, is greatly Increased Among all their Neighbours, as they must Come through your Countries to Carry on this Commerce, so necessary for them, and when they see and understand the Strength and numbers of your Bretheren, all over this great Continent, united together in this Covenant Chain, they must have a high Opinion of your power; as the keeping the path Open to this place, from all the Indian nations to the Westward of you, is of so great Benefit to you, as well as to the Common Interest of us all, I give this Belt to remove all Loggs, or other rubbish that may obstruct it.

A Belt

Bretheren

The Governor of Canada dreads this Union of the Bretheren with us, and with the distant Nations to the Westward and Southward, as far as the river Mississipi, for this reason he is always endeavouring to Break this Chain, by obstructing and stopping the Trade and Commerce that is Between this place and the far Indians, who pass thro your Countries. I am told he is at this time Building a fort on your Lands at Oniagara, to stop the Indians in their way to trade with us—If you should Suffer him to do this, the Six Nations will become weak and mean, in the Eyes of all the Neighbouring Nations, for these Forts will be Like Bitts and Bridles in their Mouths, by which you and the other Indian Nations must turn, and go as the Governor of Canada pleases. your Bretheren the English make no Attempts on you to restrain your Liberty of going to trade where you Like best, and where you Can be served Best. Whereas these forts wch the French Build are to take this Liberty from the other Nations, and to force them to go to Canada, and thereby to withdraw their Love and friendship from us and you, and to make them our Enemys. I therefore by this Belt in the Name of your father the King, Insist and require of you, that as Soon as possible, you send a proper Number of your men to Oniagara, to Oblige the French to forbear their Erecting, any Forts, or other Buildings there, or at Ohio, or any where else on your Lands, and to Demolish what is already Built. It will be much Easier to prevent their being Built, than to pull them down afterwards.

A Belt

Bretheren

Another Artifice the Enemys of our Covenant Chain make use of, is to Excite Variance and War, Between the Several Indian Nations that are united with your Bretheren the English, in the Several parts of this Great Continent. Nothing can so Effectually weaken, and at Last Entirely Destroy the Bretheren, as their falling out among themselves, and mutually Killing and destroying one Another: this is doing the Work of your Enemys: while they sit Looking on, and laugh at your folly. If all the Indian Nations united in Friendship with Carolina, Virginia, Maryland Pensilvania, this Government, Connecticut, Massachusets Bay and New Hampshire, were Truly and firmly united in the Same Councils, with Love and Friendship, how Great would that power be, what dread must it Strike on your Enemys, and who would dare Attempt to Hurt them. In Order to Accomplish this so much to be desired Union, I have prevailed upon the Governor of South Carolina, to Send a Gentleman to this place, whom you now See here and to Send with him Six of the Chiefs of the Catawbas, who are now in this City ready to make peace with you and to become Your fast friends, and to unite with You in our Common Cause. As in your former Treaties in this place, You desired, and Solemnly promised to receive them, as one Flesh and Blood with you, on their Coming to it. I therefore by this Belt Excite you, to Lay hold of this proffered peace and Friendship with the Catawbas. It must tend to Strengthening the Covenant Chain, and the Common Interest of us all. * I can

no Longer Bear to See those, who are our Bretheren, Killing and destroying one Another, and therefore I cannot Doubt of your Chearfully Agreeing to what I now propose.

A Belt of peace.

Bretheren

I design in a Little time, to pass over the Great Water, to the King your Father. I perswade myself that your ready Compliance with what I now require of you, will Enable me to recommend you to his favour, and that I may tell the King of this, among many other Instances of your Dutifullness to him, and thereby Secure to you his protection. And as the time of my Imbarquing draws near, I must recommend to you all possible dispatch to the affairs now before you. A Belt.

Answer of the Six Nations to his Excellency the Honourable George Clinton Capt General and Governour In Chief in and Over the province of New York &c.

At Albany the Eighth Day of July 1751.

PRESENT—as before

Brother Corlaer

We are now met at the appointed time, to make our Answer, and desire to know Whether Your Excellency is ready to hear us (to which his Excellency answered yes).

Brother Corlaer

It is a Long time Since we have had the pleasure of seeing Your Excellency at this place of Consultation, and we will now Answer Your Excellency's Speech, paragraph by paragraph.

Brother Corlaer

As your Excellency with the Commissioners from Massachusets Bay, Connecticut and Carolina, are Come to renew the Covenant Chain with the Six Nations, we are also Come here to Join Your Excellency and those Commissioners, in that Good design, and Say that we Shall remain Inseperable by any Accidents of this world, for that neither Thunder Lightning or the falling of Trees Can seperate us. A Belt—

Brother Corlaer

As the Commissioner from Carolina, has never been here before, the Oneydeys, Tusquaroras, & Chingas, have agreed to give him a name, that if for time to Come, we should have Occasion to talk of him, we may know who we mean, and have Chose the name (Arickwawaga) and hope he will always Honestly Assist, in holding fast the Covenant Chain. A Belt—

Brother Corlaer

By the Old Covenant we are one heart, one Blood, and one head: and we thank your Excellency for renewing this Covenant: and we shall remain as one, for if any member is hurt, it Affects the whole. A Belt—

Brother Corlaer

Your Excellency desired us to Increase our Interest Among the far Nations: we now Inform your Excellency, that we have done it, and Still Continue to do it, Having got nine Castles of

the far Nations Setled at Caniahaga, who Acknowledge themselves Subjects of the King of Great Britain, and have Built a Stockade Fort there, to Strengthen themselves, and Secure the English Trade, and Agreable to your Excellency's desire we shall Increase Our Interest as much as possible. A Belt—

Brother Corlaer

Your Excellency also desired we should Send Some of our men, to forbid the French Building any Forts at Oniagara, and we now Inform Your Excellency, that the reason of the Onendagas Going to Canada, was with that View, as the Land was the property of that Nation, and at their return we Expect an Answer, whether they will desist or no, which we shall take Care to Let your Excellency know of; and if they do not Stop, we shall do as your Excellency directs, and go some of Each nation and forbid the Building of those forts. A Belt—

Brother Corlaer

It was Your Excellency's desire, Eleven Years Ago, for us to make Peace with the Catawbas: we told your Excellency then we wanted to See and talk with them, and as your Excellency Informs us, that they are now here, we are willing to see them, and hear them talk, and then we shall Consider of it, with all Moderation; and as your Excellency told us, that the French Laughed at our killing one another, we are Convinced of the truth of it, and shall Consider more of it, when we hear the Catawbas— A Belt—

Brother Corlaer

It might have been of bad Consequence, had not your Excellency Acquainted us of your going over the great water, and as we know of your going, we wish you a prosperous Voyage, it is a dangerous passage, wherefore we pray to the great God of heaven, to protect you, and Carry you Safe Over. we shall be glad to hear of your Safe Arrival, as your Excellency has promised to recommend us to our father the King, which we do not doubt but you will do, and we return your Excellency our hearty thanks for your promise.—As your Excellency has been so good as to Inform us of your going over the great water, we desire your Excellency will Carry a Message from us, and Inform the King our father, that the French are Endeavouring to take away our Lands, and Build Forts on them, and beg that the King will Inform the King of France of the proceedings of his Subjects, that he may put a stop to it, for that the Land belongs to the King our Father, and the Governor of this province—

Brother Corlaer

We would send another Message by you, that is, that the King our Father would reinstate Coll° Johnson amongst us. And as you are now About to Leave us, and have not Chose any person, with whom we may Transact our Affairs in the mean time, we hope you will Appoint some person, to whom we may bring our news, and from whom we may receive News—
A Belt—

Brother Corlaer

We have now fully finished our Answer

Prisoners in Canada. When His Excellency in private presents gave to Niecus a Laced Coat, Hatt, and rufled Shirt and to Dunckards Son the Like

And among them and the rest of the Warriours.

2 p^{s} Strouds	12 Guns	1 Doz^{a} Knives
1 p^{s} half Ticks	50 Flints	24lb Lead
14 y^{ds} Cottons	2lb Vermilion	28lb Goose Shot
12 Shirts	1 Doz^{a} Boxes to put it in	12 Kettles

When Niecus for the whole returned his Excellency thanks, and said he was Obliged to his Excellency for Considering their hardships in the War.

The Speech of Mr Bull the Commissioner from South Carolina to the Six Nations.

My Bretheren the Sachems and Warriours of the Six Nations.

Govr Clinton having kindled a Council fire at Albany, and Invited the English Governors and Indians to it, I am Come a Long way on the Great Sea, from South Carolina, to talk with you at it. and as no Governor or Commissioner from that province, hath ever shaken hands with you at Albany before, I give you this Belt of wampum to tell you I am glad to see you, and to shake hands with you, that you may know me, and Open your Ears to hear what I have to say to You— A Belt

Bretheren

The Governor of South Carolina Intended to have Came himself to see You, but as there was Some bad Folks from the Cherokee Nation, as if they designed to Stop the path by Killing and plundering the English Traders in that nation, the Governor resolved to Stay to take Care of his people, and in Case any mischief should be done by the Cherokees, Immediately to Carry war into Such of their Towns, as Should be Concerned in it: he has therefore sent me, one of the Beloved Men, to talk for him, and gave me this good talk, which I have in my hand to deliver in particular from himself to you. He has fixed the Great Seal to it, that you may know it is a Strong talk, for this Seal ties Every thing Strong to which it is fastened, it shall be read to You now, and may be read to your Children after you

[Here Mr Bull read the Governor of Carolina's Letter to the Six Nations]

The Governor of South Carolina to his Friends and Brothers the Chiefs of the Six Nations and other Indians meeting at Albany.

Loving Friends and Brothers

There are many nations of Indians in Alliance with this Government; the Cherokees, the Creeks, the Chickesaws, the Catawbas, and a great part of the Chactaws, besides many tribes that are Incorporated with Some of these Nations, or that Live peaceably in our Settlements, the Charraws, Euchees, Notchees, Peedees, Cape Fears, Etewaus and others, and as they are friends to the English, it has been my Constant Endeavour, to keep them friends with one Another. The French were at Great pains Some Years ago, to get an Interest among them, and to Alienate their Affections from us; but finding their Attempts were Vain, their next design has been, to Stir up Strife, and to Kindle the Flame of war amongst them; thereby to weaken them; so as they may become an Easy prey to them: and in this they have been too Succesfull, having blown up a Bloody war afresh betwixt the Creeks, and Cherokees, after I had Extinguished it, and had happily healed those wounds that had been too Long Bleading.

however I hope I shall still reconcile all their Differences; and it would give me an Equal pleasure, if I could Contribute in Conjunction with the Governor of New York, to Adjust and Settle the disputes that have so Long Subsisted between the Six Nations and other Indians to the Northward, and the Catawbas, Creeks and other Southward Indians. I have Some time ago talked to the Catawbas upon this Subject, in the presence of Some of those, who go with this Letter, and their King would have been at Albany a Year and an half ago, had not Death prevented him: however the King and the head men, and all the nation in General, are now desirous to Bury in Eternal Oblivion, all that has happened on either Side, so that the Same may never in time to Come be Mentioned or thought of; and are Willing or desirous to make a peace, and to Bind themselves in one Chain of Friendship with their Brothers of the Six Nations and the other Southward Indians; the one End to be Kept by the Governor of New York, and the other End by the Governor of South Carolina: and I hope youl agree to it, and I have sent Some presents of such things as I thought you might have Occasion for, to Bind the Treaty, not only betwixt you and the Catawbas, but betwixt you and the Creeks, and all Southern Indians. may the Chain never Contract any rust, but Shine Like the Sun in the Firmament. may the peace Last while the Sun Endures. I am my very Good friends your Loving Brother.

JAMES GLEN Govr S^{o} Carolina. (Ls)

South Carolina may 21st 1751.

Bretheren with this talk, I deliver this Belt of Wampum, to Inforce the matters therein recommended to you. A Belt—

Bretheren

It makes my heart and Every English Heart Sorry, to See Indians who are friends to the English, Continuing at war with Each other, it is almost Like Strikeing the Hatchet in your Bretheren the English. This Can be pleasing only to your Enemys—You my Bretheren of the Six Nations, are all good Friends to the English; and the Catawbas, the Chickesaws. the Creeks, Cherokees Some of the Chactaws, and the Small Tribes of Indians Living in our Settlements, are also good friends to the English, it is very good, and therefore our desire that all the Indians who are friends to the English should be Friends to each other, and be Included in the Same Bright Chain, which holds the English and the Six United Nations together. I am now Come a great way with the Assistance of the Governor of New York, and the Commissioners from Massachusets Bay and Connecticut, to Lengthen the Old Covenant Chain for that purpose, and to plant the Tree of peace; may it always be Green Like the Laurel, may its Roots grow so Strong in the Earth, that no Wind from the Great Lakes or Great Rivers, where the French are Setled, Shall be able to Blow it down. may its Branches Spread wide in the Air, that you the Six Nations and your Allies, may sit friendly under the Shadow of it, with the Catawbas, Creeks Chickesaws, Chactaws, Cherokees and the Small Tribes Living in our Settlements, and there Smoke together, and may the hatchett and all that is past be Buried so deep under Ground, that no Cross person who desires to dig it up can find it; Then the time which you now Spend in going to War against our Indian Brethren, may be Usefully Employed against our Common Enemys, or in Hunting, that you may Buy plenty of Goods for your Selves your Wives and your Children. this will be very agreeable to the Great King George, who Like our good father, is Grieved to see his Children destroy each other, but is pleased when he Sees them kind to one Another—To inforce this proposal I give you this broad Belt of Wampum

Bretheren

Altho South Carolina is so far distant from Albany, yet I have Brought some presents for you from that Government, which you will Accept of, as a Testimony of the Friendship, which that province hath for our Bretheren the Six Nations. I have them in my Care, and they shall be delivered when Govr Clinton makes his presents to you, to Confirm this promise I give you this String of Wampum.

My Bretheren the Sachems, and Warriours of the Six Nations.

We have heard what his Excellency Governor Clinton has said Concerning a peace, and what his Excellency the Governor of South Carolina hath wrote to you, and also what I have now said, you will hear next, what the Chiefs of the Catawbas, who Came here with me will say, they Come to this Council Fire at Albany, to meet you, in Order to make peace with you, they know it is the desire of the English that peace should be made between You, and you know it is the desire of the English also. To Open Your Ears I give you this Belt of Wampum

Here the Catawbas Came down from their Quarters, Singing with their Colours pointed to the Ground, and having Lit their pipes, the King and one more, put them in the mouths of the Chief Sachems of the Six Nations, who Smoked out of them. And then Spoke to them as follows.

Friends

I Last Year with the Advice of my great men, determined to make a peace with you, and Set out for that purpose, but was taken Sick by the way, which hinder'd me. The same resolution remained in my heart, and the Govr of Carolina Agreeing with me, Consented to Send a Vessel to New York, that we might meet you here at this treaty, which greatly rejoyced me, and when I Came away, my Towns all Shoke hands with me, and desired me for them to make a peace, and I give this Belt, which has all my Towns upon it, Signifying that they all Join in my desire.

We are all Friends to the English and desire to be so with our Brothers the Six Nations, and as Some of your people are now out, that do not know of the peace, when they are all returned, and the path Clear and Safe, I will Come to your Towns and Houses, and Smoke with You, as I would in my own. [Here the King first, and then the other Catawbas Shoke hands with the Six Nations]

To which the Six Nations Answered.

Bretheren

We are glad to see you here, and return you thanks for your kind Speech. But as it is a thing of moment, we must take time to Consider of it, and shall Answer you this Evening or to morrow morning.

When his Excellency told the Six Nations he would give them their presents, when they had answered the Catawbas.

The Answer of the Six Nations to the Speech of Mr Bull the Commissioner from South Carolina

At Albany the tenth day of July 1751.

PRESENT—His Excellency the Honoble George Clinton &ca
The Honble Cadwallader Colden
James Alexander
James De Lancey
Edward Holland
William Johnson
} Esqrs of the Council
The Commissioners from the Several provinces.
The Mayor & Corporation of Albany.
And Several Officers of the Independant Companys, and other Gentlemen from New York Attending his Excellency, and the Commissioners on this Occasion.

The Catawbas being Come Down from their Quarters.

The Chief Sachem of the Senecas Litt a pipe, and put it into the mouths of Each of the Catawbas, who Smoked out of it, and then he returned it Among the Six Nations. And then the Six Nations Begun.

Brother Corlaer & Arickwawaga

In Answer to the first paragraph of Mr Bull's Speech, we return him thanks for his kind Speech, and desire that he will be faithfull and Honest in holding fast the Covenant Chain
A Belt

to 2d Paragraph.

Arickwawaga

We thank You kindly for the Governor of Carolina's Letter, and shall preserve it as in our Bosom.

Brother Corlaer and others, particularly Arrickwawaga

We kindly thank your Excellency and the other Gent for the Uneasiness they Express at the Indians murdering one another, and we Consent that the Hatchet be Buried where no Ill Natured person can find it. A Belt

Brother Corlaer and others the Commissioners.

Arickwawaga the other day by a Belt of wampum told us, that he Came here to plant a tree of peace, that the English and Indians might Sit in peace under it. we thank you for your good design, and heartily Join you in it, and may it grow Large and last forever.
A Belt

Brother Corlaer &ca

Arickwawaga also told us, that he brought with him Some of his Bretheren the Catawbas, and gave us a Belt to Open our Ears, to hear them; we have heard them, and thank him for his Advice A Belt

Arickwawaga Also told us, that altho he Came a great way, he Brought some thing in his Bosom as a present for us, and to remind him thereof, we give this String of Wampum

Brother Corlaer

It is but a few days ago, we desired you to raise up the Falling Tree Warickweaga (Coll Johnson meaning) and Leave us Some person to Transact our Affairs with. The Goods at Oswego are so dear, that we Cannot Buy them, and desire your Excellency will Order them to be sold Cheaper, as it will be a means of Strengthening the Covenant Chain.

A String of wampum

When the Six Nations Spoke to the Catawbas as follows

Bretheren the Catawbas

You Came to our Doors and Fires, to make peace with us, and we have heard your kind Speech, and thank you for it, and as a token that you Came to make peace, and were received as our Friends, we give you this white Belt of Wampum, to wear about your necks, that all that see it, may know that you have been here and were received as our Friends.

Bretheren the Catawbas.

This Belt Serves to make you more powerfull, and give you Short horns; it has been a Custom among all the Indian Nations, that when they Come to Sue for peace, they bring some prisoners with them, and when you return with prisoners, the peace shall be Compleated, and your horns Lengthened, and we give you a year to return with the prisoners, and if you do not Come in that time, we shall Look upon the peace as Void.

Bretheren the Catawbas

We will take your pipe up to the Mohawks Castle, being the first Town you came to, as it were; and there Sit and Smoke, and think of you, and not go out to war, if you return within the time Appointed by us.

Here the Catawbas Answered

I have Long wished for a peace with you the Six Nations, but never had an Opportunity till now, and as it is Compleated before his Excellency and these Commissioners, and the Belt past, I shall wear it about my neck as a token of Friendship.

It is a right and good Custom, that prisoners should be Exchanged in making a peace, and if you'l send Some of your people home with me, I will Carry them to my Own house, and they shall Live as I do, and I will then deliver all the prisoners I have to them, and Come with them, and Conduct them Safe to their own doors.

Bretheren the Catawbas.

As to your request of Sending Some of our people to your Country, it is unprecedented, and what we never have done at the first time of meeting; and none of our people are prepared to go: therefore we Cant Agree to it. But we may at the Second time Send Some of our people with you.

Here the Catawbas Answered

We shall Come in a Short time to your Towns to compleat the peace and you may Expect to See us.

The Six Nations Answered

Bretheren the Catawbas

We desire when you Come again, you'l Come by water, and bring a Commissioner with you, that we may know you to be the Same. for as there are Several Nations which are in

Conjunction with us, that may not know of this peace, the path may be dangerous, and destroy what is now done. but if you Come to this place youl be Safe

Here his Excellency Spoke to the Six Nations as follows.

Bretheren

I am glad to be Informed by you, of the Success of our Endeavours to Increase your Strength and Interest among other nations — That you have received nine Castles into the Covenant Chain, and that they have Acknowledged themselves Subjects of the King of Great Britain.

I approve of what you have done, and hope you will Continue your Endeavours for these purposes, and I shall Likewise on my return to Court, Lay before the King your Father, what you have desired me to Say in relation to Coll° Johnson, and I can add no more, than what I have Already told you — I have Constantly given Orders that goods be Sold as Cheap at Oswego as the Traders Can afford them.

To which the Six Nations Answered

Brother Corlear

We desire Coll° Johnson may be Reinstated; for as there is Some of the Six Nations gone to Canada, about the French Building a fort at Oniagara; unless your Excellency Appoints Some person for us to go to, you Cannot Expect to hear what Answer they Bring.

Which his Excellency answered, telling them, that on his return to New York, he would advise with the Councill as to the Appointment of Some person for their Affairs.

And then Ordered the presents Out, and gave them, and at the Same time Mr. Bull gave his

Governor Clinton to the Duke of Bedford.

[New-York Papers (S. P. O.) XI., 221.]

My Lord Duke.

I lately received a letter, from Mr Catherwood, my secretary in London, dated the 18 of May, wherein he acquaints me of his having often made application to Your Grace, for my leave of absence, and that he was in hopes of obtaining it. But in the latter part of his letter, he tells me, Your Grace declined getting my leave, till the report had been made, and considered in Council, which was a great disappointment to me, hopeing that after so many years absence I should have been indulged with it; And accordingly had put every thing on boar[d] His Maj^ty's^ Ship Greyhound, which was to sail in a few days, so that I must now undergo another winter's severity, and I am told that nothing but the Bath can be of service to me, my health being so much impaired by this Climat; therefore, I must again repeat my petition to Your Grace, to procure me my leave; and as the faction every day decreases, and the peoples eyes are open, I conceive it will be of no ill consequence to leave Mr Colden President, till His Maj^ty's^ pleasure be known, especially as Your Grace, has hinted, that you will not

My speech in Parliament
8 July 1751

Brethren The design of my meeting
with you at this time is to
renew the Covenant Chain,
to cleanse away all rust &
to brighten it, ~~and to make~~
~~it clean~~ and to strengthen it,
so that it may forever
endure. As this Chain has
lasted so long &
secured us against the designs
of our Enemies who have
at all times endeavoured,
and are still endeavouring
to break it ~~that it~~ that, ~~and lasted~~
~~lasting~~, ~~and~~ that we may be
~~should~~ as near
you should let us
~~Let us~~ hold fast with all our strength
it fast with all our strength,
and secure it at both ends.

You see here the
Gentlemen Commissioners
from ~~the~~ Governments of the
~~from the Governments~~ Massachusetts Bay and
Connecticut who are come
hither to assist us in holding
the Chain fast. in a new way have
been united with us, by the particular ties
of love, by the Belt, in
your Father the King of
Great Britain's Name, ~~and~~
in behalf of all His Majesty's
subjects in North America
renew and confirm the
Covenant

Commissrs from the Governments of
the Massachusetts Bay & Connecticut have met
you at the Council fire in this place, from
the earliest time, & are now come again
there is also a Commissr from South Carolina
which Province being a great way off has
never sent any Commissr before this time
these Commissrs are all come further to assist
us in strengthening & holding fast the old
Covenant Chain

Covenant Chain, and all
former Engagements of
Love and Friendship, between
us and you, that they may
remain firm and unshaken
as long as the Sun & Moon
shall endure.

The Chain Belt

Brethren

One great End & purpose
of this Chain is to secure
Trade and Commerce between
us and you, and by your
means, with all the Nations
of Indians which Live to
the Westward of you. By
this means the Power and
Authority of the Six Nations
is greatly increased among
all their Neighbours, as
they must come Thro' your
Countries, to carry on this
Commerce, so necessary for
them, and when they see
and understand
the Strength of this Chain
by the great Numbers of
your Brethren, all over
this great Continent, that
are united together in this
Covenant

Covenant-Chain They have a high opinion of your power, & must be dreaded for their Power.

The Governour of Canada dreads this Union of the Brethren with us, and with the distant Nations to the Westward & Southward as far as the River Mississipi, and for this reason Purpose, he is allways endeavouring to break the Chain, by obstructing and stopping the Trade and Commerce, that is between this Place and the Far-Indians, thro' your Countries.

You are told that he is at this time building a Fort on your Lands, at Onondaga to stop the Indians in their way to us. If you should suffer him to do this, The Six Nations will become weak and mean in the Eyes of all the neighbouring Nations. For these Forts will be like Bitts and Bridles in their mouths, by which you and the other Indian Nations must will turn, and go as the Governour of Canada pleases.

Your

Your Brethoren the English make no attempts on you, to restrain your Liberty of going to Trade where you like best; and where you can be best served. These Forts which the French build, are to take this Liberty from the other Nations, and to force them to go to Canada, and thereby, to withdraw their Love and Friendship from us and you, and to make them our Enemies. Therefore, by this Belt, in the Name of your Father the King, insist and require of you, that as soon as possible, you send a proper Number of your men to Niagara, to oblige the French to forbear their erecting any Forts or other Buildings there, and to Demolish what is already built. (or at this for any where else in your Lands) (It will be much easier to prevent their being built than to pull them down afterwards)

A Belt

Brethoren

Another artifice the Enemies of our Covenant-Chain ~~between us and you~~, make use

use of, is to excite Variance
and War between the several
Indian Nations, that are
united with your Brethren
the English, in the several
parts of this great Continent.

Nothing can so
effectually weaken, and at
last entirely destroy the
Brethren, as their falling
out among themselves and
mutually killing and
destroying one another.
This doing the work of
your Enemies, ~~to kill and destroy one~~
~~another~~, while they sit
looking on and laugh at
your Folly; If all the Indian
Nations united in Friendship
with Carolina, Virginia,
Maryland, Pensylvania,
this Government, Connecticut
& New Hampshire
Massachusetts Bay, were
timely, and firmly united,
in the same Council,
with Love and Friendship;
How great would that Power
be! What daring Enemies
strike on their Enemies, and
who dare attempt to hurt them!

In order to accomplish
this, so much to be desired,
Union

Union, & Peace prevailed
upon the Governour of South
Carolina to send a Gentleman
to this place where you now
see here, and to send with
him six of the Chiefs of the
Catawbas who are now in this city ready
to make Peace
with you, and to become
your fast Friends, and to
unite with you in the our
common Cause. Therefore,
by this Belt I cast
Ray Field of this proffered
Peace, and Friendship with the Governor
must tend to strengthening
the Covenant Chain, and
the common Interest of us
all. I can no longer
bear to see those, who are
our Brethren, killing
and destroying one another

A Belt of Peace

As the keeping the Path
open to this Place from all
the Indian Nations, to the
Westward of you is of so
great Benifit to you as well
as to the common Interest
of us all. I give this Belt
to remove all Logs or
other Rubbish that may
obstruct it.

A Belt.

as in your former Treaties
in this place you desired
and solemnly promised
to receive them as one
Flesh, Blood with
you

It

[illegible] agreeing to [illegible] sincerely
that I am not [illegible] above two years ago
as the Blood [illegible] only desiring
that Some of them should come
to this place to confirm & ratify
the Peace & League & Friendship
with them now [illegible] before

I design in a little
time to pass over the great
Water to the King your
Father. I perswade my
self that your ready
compliance with what I
now require of you, will
enable me to recommend
you to his Favour, and that
I may tell ~~the~~ the King of this
among many other
instances of your Duty, fidelity
to him, and thereby secure
to you his Protection.
And as the time of my
~~Departure~~ Imbarquing draws near,
I must recommend to you
all the possible Dispatch
to the affairs now before
you

A Belt.

Some sturdy beggars can be also added, but they must be few at a time, so that they may be forwarded, according as they will arrive, to the different places where they are to work.

In fine, nothing must be spared to strengthen these Colonies, since they may, and are to be considered as the bulwark of America, against the attacks of the English; since they alone can make up for the want of Naval forces, and the outlay they will occasion will save more considerable expense whereof the effects are much less certain, especially if we allow ourselves to be reduced to the necessity of having to transport reinforcements thither from France, in order to preserve these Colonies in time of war; and since they cannot be abandoned to their actual strength alone, without being delivered over in some sort to the English, who, by the wealth they would draw thence, to the exclusion of other nations, would most certainly acquire the superiority in Europe.

December, 1750.

CONFERENCE BETWEEN THE MARQUIS DE LA JONQUIERE AND THE INDIANS.

Propositions of the Onondagas of the Five Nations to the Marquis de la Jonquiere, Governor, Lieutenant-General for the King, throughout the entire of New France, the territories and country of Louisiana, in presence of the Civil and Military Chiefs of the Iroquois of the Sault Saint Louis, and of the Lake of the Two Mountains, of the Abenaquis of Saint Francis, and of the Otasais Sinagos and Kiskakons of Missilinakinac, which propositions, as well as the answers, have been interpreted to each Nation, word for word. The 11th of July, 1751.

PROPOSITIONS.

Kaksenthiony, Onondago speaker. By two strings.

1.

I speak for the Onondagas, and on behalf of the Five Nations.

2.

You see all your children assembled here by your order; we met with an accident yesterday, a woman belonging to our Nation was dangerously wounded by her grandson, who was drunk; we are sorry for it, but we console ourselves because this woman belongs to us, and the affair was between relations. 'Twere well that no Brandy be drank until business shall have been transacted.

3.

Father, You have had the goodness to send persons to meet us at Lachine to wipe away our tears and clear our throats; we thank you for your kindness; permit us to do the same in your presence, by our brethren of the Sault and of the Lake.

Addressing those of the Lake and of the Sault, by three Strings.

4.

Brethren of the Sault and of the Lake, I wipe away your tears: we ought all forget our past trouble; the presence of our Father Onnonthio must render us more joyous; I clear your throat and ears with these three Strings.

By three Strings.

5.

We are very glad to give you news of your warriors, who, to the number of eighteen, were defeated last year at the Ant-hill *(montagne de la Fourmi)*; we learned from an Oneida that two of our young men, who had been with them, were killed by the Cherakis, but we doubt not they were accompained by the English, and that these struck the blow, for none had been scalped, and your men have been found with their arms, clothes and wampum, which the Cherakis would not have failed to take; it is to be presumed that the English committed this murder.

6.

Exhibiting a Belt.

Here is a Belt which was given to us by Mékinack, an Otasais chief of Detroit, on the behalf of the Marquis de la Galissonniére in the name of all the French and ten other Nations, his children, who were, then, assembled with him, to inform us that we had committed a grave error in allowing a settlement to have been made on the Beautiful river, and to pursuade us to cause our young men and the nations who are gone thither to retire; we are always ready to obey that message; we have summoned the English to withdraw from the other side of the mountain, in order that the earth be free, it being essential to preserve the hunting of those countries for the warriors.

7.

We have already obeyed Mr de la Galissonniere's Belt; by showing it to the young men who are on the Beautiful river; 'tis true our people resort there, but 'tis only for the purpose of hunting, of which the English deprive them; we have sent these English word to retire.

8.

By a Belt deposited at the Store in Montreal.

Father, Here is a Belt on which you will find marked the Nations who united with us to make those young men retire: we assure you we will not permit any Nation to establish posts there; the Master of Life has placed us on that territory, and we alone ought to enjoy it, without anybody having the power to trouble us there.

There are people belonging to all Nations on the Beautiful river, we pray you to have them sent off, especially those of the Sault and of the Lake, the Abenaquis and Outasais, whose chiefs are here present.

9.

When Mékinac gave us Mr de la Galissonniere's Belt he recommended us to obey our Father's message; to be careful not to commit blunders; he threatened us, and requested us not to allow ourselves to be spoken of in connection with bad business.

By a Belt deposited in the Store at Montreal.

10.

I told Mékinac in reply, that he was foolish as I; that trouble originated as much with him as with me. I added: remember, when you met us at Chouaguen, you communicated news to us, and have always created trouble; control your people only, I will control mine, and you will see that things will go well, and that the nations will be quiet, we are Onnontio's children and as loyal as you can be.

Answers of the General, by two Strings.

1.

Son Kaksenthiony, I have listened attentively to all you have said to me for yourself and for the Five Nations, though each village ought to have sent deputies with you.

2.

I see you here present, my dear children, with pleasure; I would have been very glad had you come all of last year; I expected you, and though children who love their father sincerely ought to leave everything to go and see him, yet, impatient as I was to give you proofs of my goodness, I deputed Sieur Chabert de Joncaire to go to all your villages to pay you a visit from me; and charged him to come himself and bring me news of the Five Nations.

I feel great interest in the assault committed on a woman of your village by her grandson. I hope the attention paid her by my Surgeon will operate her cure; it is for you, children, to administer such correction as you will find suited to this young man.

Were my orders not contravened, my children would never get drunk; but they are so smart that they deceive me, and find Frenchmen who treat them to brandy in secret, of which you ought to take care.

3.

My attention in sending to meet you at Lachine, must prove to you my good feelings; I desired not that you should arrive in my village with wet eyes; I had your tears wiped away by your son, Mr de la Chavignerie, and had your throat cleared in order that your words may flow free and easy.

By three Belts.

Children, You have done well to wipe away the tears of your brethren of the Sault and of the Lake; I would be rejoiced if my presence made you forget all your troubles; if you interpret my sentiments towards you all, correctly, you will be pursuaded that I labor only to make you happy.

4.

I grieve much for the melancholy fate which befel, at the Anthill, eighteen Iroquois of the Sault, whereof two were young men of yours. I unite with you, my dear children, in bewailing them.

5.

I see the Belt which was sent by the Marquis de la Galissonière in the name both of the French and ten other nations.

I applaud your constant readiness to obey that Belt, and cannot sufficiently exhort you to do your best to get your people and the other nations to retire from the Beautiful river to their ancient village; 'tis certain, my children, that these tribes cannot do anything but mischief there, and if you would make use of the authority you have over them, they would conclude on following your good advice.

The steps I have taken to oblige these nations to withdraw, ought to convince them that I have only their interest at heart, and I am sufficiently disposed to believe that they would have profited by the amnesty I granted to them, had the English, who are with them, not urged them not to listen to my voice.

You cannot deny that these English are the authors of all the mischief; you ought to oblige them not to appear any more on the Beautiful river; I agree that you should hunt there; the French have never troubled you, whilst the English occupy themselves only with their own plans which tend to your ruin; confess, my children, that they have no right to go there, and that they would be careful not to make their appearance in that quarter, did you not receive them there.

6.

You ought not content yourself with showing the Marquis de la Galissonnière's Belt to the Nations on the Beautiful river; you ought, also, to tell them decidedly, that you would constrain them to obey that Belt: had you spoken to them in this tone, you would have made them think seriously, and the Earth would be at peace.

I know that you are accustomed to go to hunt at the Beautiful river, and that you never come back without having transacted some business with the English: I can also add, that some of your young men, as well as some belonging to other nations, always remain there; it is in this way that that country now finds itself inhabited by several bands of different nations, who prefer a lawless life to living in their village in the centre of their families.

The English are much less anxious to take away your peltries than to become masters of your lands; they labor only to debauch you; you have the weakness to listen to them, and your blindness is so great, that you do not perceive that the very hand that caresses you, will scourge you like negroes and slaves, so soon as it will have got possession of those lands.

By a Belt deposited in the store at Montreal.

7.

I shall always preserve the belt you have given me to let me know the nations who have united with you to carry out M^r^. de la Galissonnière's good views.

I cannot but believe the assurance you give me that you will not permit any nation to establish posts at the Beautiful river; doubtless you have not spoken without reflection; but how comes it—do you deceive me?—that the English traders have each their house, or their huts there? Whence comes it—do you desire to conceal from me—that your people live with them, hand and glove *(a pot et a feu)*; truly, my children, your conduct hardly corresponds with my intentions; I cannot perceive, without deep pain, that the blindness of all the nations does not permit them to see that they are nourishing vipers in their bosom, whose sting will be more dangerous to them than the death of themselves, their children and all their posterity.

I repeat that the lands on the Beautiful river are to be reserved for your hunting, and you may be assured that I will aid you with all my might to drive from them all those who will trouble you there.

No nation is ignorant that I have, up to the present time, used every mild means to recall back to their villages the nations who have taken refuge at the Beautiful river; I must not even conceal from you that they have somewhat abused my kindness, and yet my heart, which breathes only love for my children, would be disposed

to pardon them all their past faults, and I would still open my arms to receive them. You of the Lake and you Otasais, pay attention to what I have just said, and on your side, use all your efforts to recall all your people back to your village; I recommend you to do so, and require it of your friendship for me.

8.

Mékinac could not too earnestly recommend you to obey Mr. de la Galissonnière's message, and not to allow yourselves to be spoken of in connection with bad business.

9.

The answer you gave Mékinac pleases me, and you surprise me by saying that he has meddled with bad business; I shall not fail to reproach him with it.

I see that he has been at Chouaguen like many others; Rum draws you all to that place; you have no idea, children, how pernicious that liquor is to you. The English employ it to spoil your heart and senses, and you must, moreover, have perceived that such liquor injures your health. How many of your brethren has it not killed.

We, Pierre Rigaud, Marquis de Vaudreuil, Commander of the Royal and Military Order of St. Louis, Governor and Lieutenant-General for the King throughout all New France, the territories and countries of Louisiana.

Certify the present copy to be conformable to the original remaining the office of our Secretary. In testimony whereof, we have signed these presents, caused the same to be sealed with the seal of our Arms, and to be countersigned by our Secretary.

Done at Montreal, the 15th of February, 1758.

(Signed), VAUDREUIL.

By my Lord

(Signed), SAINT SAUVEUR.

MARQUIS DE LA JONQUIERE TO GOVERNOR CLINTON.

[TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.]

MONTREAL, *10th August, 1751.*

SIR: I did not receive, until the 3rd of this month, the despatch your Excellency did me the honor to write to me by Mr Cornelius Cuyler on the 12th of June last.

You cannot complain, Sir, of the post I have caused to be erected at the foot of the Niagara carrying place, much less pretend that

For this purpose the resolution ought to be adopted to send a great many people to New France, in order to enable those who have the administration thereof, to work at the same time at the different proposed posts.

These people ought to be principally soldiers, who can in a very short time be converted into good settlers.

Some smugglers, and even some bad women (*femmes de mauvaise vie*), may be added to them, but none of the latter must be sent until applied for, which probably will not be soon, as there are generally more women than men in Canada.

Some sturdy beggars can be also added, but they must be few at a time, so that they may be forwarded, according as they will arrive, to the different places where they are to work.

In fine, nothing must be spared to strengthen these Colonies, since they may, and are to be considered as the bulwark of America, against the attacks of the English; since they alone can make up for the want of Naval forces, and the outlay they will occasion will save more considerable expense whereof the effects are much less certain, especially if we allow ourselves to be reduced to the necessity of having to transport reinforcements thither from France, in order to preserve these Colonies in time of war; and since they cannot be abandoned to their actual strength alone, without being delivered over in some sort to the English, who, by the wealth they would draw thence, to the exclusion of other Nations, would most certainly acquire the superiority in Europe.

December, 1750.

Conference between the Marquis de la Jonquière and the Indians.

Propositions of the Onondagas of the Five Nations to the Marquis de la Jonquière, Governor, Lieutenant-General for the King, throughout the entire of New France, the territories and country of Louisiana, in presence of the Civil and Military Chiefs of the Iroquois of the Sault Saint Louis, and of the Lake of the Two Mountains, of the Abenaquis of Saint Francis, and of the Otasais Sinagos and Kiskakons of Missilimakinac, which propositions, as well as the answers, have been interpreted to each Nation, word for word. The 11th of July, 1751.

Propositions.

Kakȣenthiony, Onondaga speaker. By two strings.

1.

I speak for the Onondagas, and on behalf of the Five Nations.

2.

You see all your children assembled here by your order; we met with an accident yesterday, a woman belonging to our Nation was dangerously wounded by her grandson, who was drunk; we are sorry for it, but we console ourselves because this woman belongs to us, and the affair was between relations. 'Twere well that no Brandy be drank until business shall have been transacted.

3.

Father, You have had the goodness to send persons to meet us at Lachine to wipe away our tears and clear our throats; we thank you for your kindness; permit us to do the same in your presence, by our brethren of the Sault and of the Lake.

Addressing those of the Lake and of the Sault, by three Strings.

4.

Brethren of the Sault and of the Lake, I wipe away your tears; we ought all forget our past trouble; the presence of our Father Onnonthio must render us more joyous; I clear your throat and ears with these three Strings.

By three Strings.

5.

We are very glad to give you news of your warriors, who, to the number of eighteen, were defeated last year at the Ant-hill (*montagne de la Fourmi*); we learned from an Oneida that two of our young men, who had been with them, were killed by the Cherakis, but we doubt not they were accompanied by the English, and that these struck the blow, for none had been scalped, and your men have been found with their arms, clothes and wampum, which the Cherakis would not have failed to take; it is to be presumed that the English committed this murder.

6.

Exhibiting a Belt.

Here is a Belt which was given to us by Mékinack, an Otaŭais chief of Detroit, on the behalf of the Marquis de la Galissonnière in the name of all the French and ten other Nations, his children, who were, then, assembled with him, to inform us that we had committed a grave error in allowing a settlement to have been made on the Beautiful river, and to persuade us to cause our young men and the Nations who are gone thither to retire; we are always ready to obey that message; we have summoned the English to withdraw from the other side of the mountain, in order that the earth be free, it being essential to preserve the hunting of those countries for the warriors.

7.

We have already obeyed Mr de la Galissonniere's Belt, by showing it to the young men who are on the Beautiful river; 'tis true our people resort there, but 'tis only for the purpose of hunting, of which the English deprive them; we have sent these English word to retire.

8.

By a Belt deposited at the Store in Montreal.

Father, Here is a Belt on which you will find marked the Nations who united with us to make those young men retire; we assure you we will not permit any Nation to establish posts there; the Master of Life has placed us on that territory, and we alone ought to enjoy it, without anybody having the power to trouble us there.

There are people belonging to all Nations on the Beautiful river, we pray you to have them sent off, especially those of the Sault and of the Lake, the Abenaquis and Outaouais, whose chiefs are here present.

9.

When Mékinac gave us Mr de la Galissonniere's Belt, he recommended us to obey our Father's message; to be careful not to commit blunders; he threatened us, and requested us not to allow ourselves to be spoken of in connection with bad business.

By a Belt deposited in the Store at Montreal.

10.

I told Mékinac in reply, that he was as foolish as I; that trouble originated as much with him as with me. I added: remember, when you met us at Chouaguen, you communicated news to us, and have always created trouble; control your people only, I will control mine, and you will see that things will go well, and that the nations will be quiet; we are Onnontio's children and as loyal as you can be.

Answers of the General, by two Strings.

1.

Son Kakouenthiony, I have listened attentively to all you have said to me for yourself and for the Five Nations, though each village ought to have sent deputies with you.

2.

I see you here present, my dear children, with pleasure; I would have been very glad had you come all of last year; I expected you, and though children who love their father sincerely ought to leave everything to go and see him, yet, impatient as I was to give you proofs of my goodness, I deputed Sieur Chabert de Joncaire to go to all your villages to pay you a visit from me; and charged him to come himself and bring me news of the Five Nations.

I feel great interest in the assault committed on a woman of your village by her grandson. I hope the attention paid her by my Surgeon will operate her cure; it is for you, children, to administer such correction as you will find suited to this young man.

Were my orders not contravened, my children would never get drunk; but they are so smart that they deceive me, and find Frenchmen who treat them to brandy in secret, of which you ought to take care.

3.

My attention in sending to meet you at Lachine, must prove to you my good feelings; I desired not that you should arrive in my village with wet eyes; I had your tears wiped away by your son, Mr de la Chavignerie, and had your throat cleared in order that your words may flow free and easy.

By three Belts.

Children, You have done well to wipe away the tears of your brethren of the Sault and of the Lake; I would be rejoiced if my presence made you forget all your troubles; if you

interpret my sentiments toward you all, correctly, you will be persuaded that I labor only to make you happy.

4.

I grieve much for the melancholy fate which befell, at the Ant-hill, eighteen Iroquois of the Sault, whereof two were young men of yours. I unite with you, my dear children, in bewailing them.

5.

I see the Belt which was sent by the Marquis de la Galissonière in the name both of the French and ten other nations.

I applaud your constant readiness to obey that Belt, and cannot sufficiently exhort you to do your best to get your people and the other nations to retire from the Beautiful river to their ancient village; 'tis certain, my children, that these tribes cannot do anything but mischief there, and if you would make use of the authority you have over them, they would conclude on following your good advice.

The steps I have taken to oblige these nations to withdraw, ought to convince them that I have only their interest at heart, and I am sufficientiy disposed to believe that they would have profited by the amnesty I granted to them, had the English, who are with them, not urged them not to listen to my voice.

You cannot deny that these English are the authors of all the mischief; you ought to oblige them not to appear any more on the Beautiful river; I agree that you should hunt there; the French have never troubled you, whilst the English occupy themselves only with their own plans which tend to your ruin; confess, my children, that they have no right to go there, and that they would be careful not to make their appearance in that quarter, did you not receive them there.

6.

You ought not content yourselves with showing the Marquis de la Galissonnière's Belt to the Nations on the Beautiful river; you ought, also, to tell them decidedly, that you would constrain them to obey that Belt; had you spoken to them in this tone, you would have made them think seriously, and the Earth would be at peace.

I know that you are accustomed to go to hunt at the Beautiful river, and that you never come back without having transacted some business with the English; I can also add, that some of your young men, as well as some belonging to other nations, always remain there; it is in this way that that country now finds itself inhabited by several bands of different nations, who prefer a lawless life to living in their village in the centre of their families.

The English are much less anxious to take away your peltries than to become masters of your lands; they labor only to debauch you; you have the weakness to listen to them, and your blindness is so great, that you do not perceive that the very hand that caresses you, will scourge you like negroes and slaves, so soon as it will have got possession of those lands.

By a Belt deposited in the store at Montreal.

7.

I shall always preserve the Belt you have given me to let me know the nations who have united with you to carry out Mr de la Galissonnière's good views.

I cannot but believe the assurance you give me that you will not permit any nation to establish posts at the Beautiful river; doubtless you have not spoken without reflection; but how comes it—do you deceive me?—that the English traders have each their house, or their huts there? Whence comes it—do you desire to conceal from me—that your people live with them, hand and glove (*à pot et à feu*); truly, my children, your conduct hardly corresponds with my intentions; I cannot perceive, without deep pain, that the blindness of all the nations does not permit them to see that they are nourishing vipers in their bosom, whose sting will be more dangerous to them than the death of themselves, their children and all their posterity.

I repeat that the lands on the Beautiful river are to be reserved for your hunting, and you may be assured that I will aid you with all my might to drive from them all those who will trouble you there.

No nation is ignorant that I have, up to the present time, used every mild means to recall back to their villages the nations who have taken refuge at the Beautiful river; I must not even conceal from you that they have somewhat abused my kindness, and yet my heart, which breathes only love for my children, would be disposed to pardon them all their past faults, and I would still open my arms to receive them. You of the Lake and you Otasais, pay attention to what I have just said, and on your side, use all your efforts to recall all your people back to your village; I recommend you to do so, and require it of your friendship for me.

8.

Mékinac could not too earnestly recommend you to obey Mr de la Galissonnière's message, and not to allow yourselves to be spoken of in connection with bad business.

9.

The answer you gave Mékinack pleases me, and you surprise me by saying that he has meddled with bad business; I shall not fail to reproach him with it.

I see that he has been at Chouaguen like many others; Rum draws you all to that place; you have no idea, children, how pernicious that liquor is to you. The English employ it to spoil your heart and senses, and you must, moreover, have perceived that such liquor injures your health. How many of your brethren has it not killed.

We, Pierre Rigaud, Marquis de Vaudreuil, Commander of the Royal and Military Order of St. Louis, Governor and Lieutenant-General for the King throughout all New France, the territories and countries of Louisiana.

Certify the present copy to be conformable to the original remaining the office of our Secretary. In testimony whereof, we have signed these presents, caused the same to be sealed with the seal of our Arms, and to be countersigned by our Secretary.

Done at Montreal, the 15th of February, 1758.

(Signed), VAUDREUIL.

By my Lord

(Signed), SAINT SAUVEUR.

Propositions of the Iroquois of the Five Nations settled at La Présentation.

Quebec, 20th September, 1751.

Propositions of the Indians.

1.

God has favored us with the fine weather yesterday, to enable us to reach you in safety; these are people who come from the head of the islands (*bout des îles*); we rejoice to see you in perfect health; all these are chiefs and warriors who bid you good morning.

2.

We have not the talent of the French; we are Indians; we pray you to pardon us if our speech be not couched in appropriate terms.

3.

We are newly born children; we have heard of the attack on the people of the Sault; we have made every search to discover who committed it.

4.

We have ascertained that they were Cheraquis; we ask if it be your pleasure that we take up the hatchet against them; they have shed our own blood; our brethren, the people of the Sault, of the Lake, and all those who are under your wing will join us.

5.

How do you wish us to proceed; we are born only to-day; we have embraced Prayer; our young braves, who have taken refuge among us, are resting themselves, and are desirous to strike a blow, if you will favor our mission, we must avenge the death of our

The General's Answer.

1.

Children, I feel sincere pleasure in seeing you. I thank you for the interest you take in my health.

2.

I know that you are young, and that you cannot yet be great orators; I am, however, pleased with your speech; it has been well spoken; you will not fail to acquire great talents, and to be able to work sedulously for the public good by executing whatever the Abbé Picquet will direct you from me to do for the service of the King, my master.

3.

You can only weep for your brethren of Sault St. Louis who have experienced a sad fate; I regret them as well as you; you have done well to search out the true authors of their death.

4.

I cannot disapprove your taking up the hatchet to strike the Cheraquis, who have steeped their hands in the blood of your brethren; your brethren of the Sault, of the Lake, and all those who are under my wing, will confer a pleasure on me by uniting with you.

5.

I admit that you ought not defer the forming of this party, and I repeat to you, that I consent to it.

Neither ought you neglect anything to increase your village and to give me proofs of your zeal for religion.

brethren; after that, our mission will increase more and more; our father, who instructs us, is as much embarrassed as we; he sees young men coming who desire to start next day for the war path.

By a Belt.

6.

We beg you to be persuaded that we are of the same mind as the French, we execute our projects, and we assure you by this Belt that we shall leave at the breaking up of the ice, with hatchet in hand, to go and strike.

6.

I am very glad that you are firm in your plan and that you will execute it; I receive your Belt with pleasure, and give you another to assure you that on the breaking up of the ice, I shall order the powder and lead you will require to be delivered to you.

By a Belt.

I give you also this Belt, whereby I wish to bind myself to you; present it to the people of the Sault, of the Lake, to the Iroquois of the Five Nations, and to all those who are under my wing; I tie them to you so that they may not separate from you until you will have avenged the death of your brethren.

7.

You are aware of the sentiments of your children of La Presentation; you know that we have nothing, we cast ourselves into your arms; you know that we are unarmed, we ask nothing of you; we leave you to consider what we stand in need of for the expedition we are about to undertake.

7.

I open my arms to receive you; I repeat to you that I shall provide, with all my heart, for your wants.

You see, besides, the presents that I make you, and that I have accomplished all that you require.

8.

I do not wish to weary you; I desire to leave in two days: you know that the Five Nations are numerous; I wish so to manage as to collect them all together, which will not fail to increase our village; I fling my body into your hands; I wish to die for my father, Onontio Gwa.

8.

You will do well to persuade your brethren of the Five Nations to unite with you, and to attract them to your village.

9.

We have to refer to your speech and that of his Lordship, the Bishop, encouraging us to increase our mission; all those who come to

9.

There are goods and clothes in the King's stores; Abbé Picquet will take care of your brethren when they will remove to his house.

join the village are naked; we hope that you will give us some necessaries to encourage them.

10.

If we were in more comfortable circumstances, our village would increase perceptibly. We want 37 kettles; it is the women who ask them.

10.

I do not forget your women; here are the kettles they ask of me.

Ministerial Minute on the Attempts of the English to settle on the Ohio.

CANADA.

The English always occupied with plans to extend their possessions, and to confine those of his Majesty, in North America, have undertaken since the last war to carry their trade towards the Beautiful river, which is situated in the interior, between Canada and Louisiana, and forms the principal communication between these two Colonies; to corrupt the Indian Nations of that quarter, and even to establish posts there.

The Marquis de la Jonquière having been informed of those attempts, adopted measures last year to prevent their success. He organized divers detachments of Frenchmen and Indians, which, according to his arrangements, were to form a junction this spring to proceed at once to the Beautiful river, drive the English from it, and bring back the Indians who might have allowed themselves to be debauched by the intrigues of that Nation.

News of the result was expected at the end of this year, but private letters have arrived from Canada stating that the Marquis de la Jonquière has abandoned that project, and insinuating that private interest has led some one, in whom he had placed his confidence, to dissuade him from it, by making him apprehend creating thereby a general Indian war.

This motive would be good, if it were valid. It is proper always to avoid, as much as possible, war with the Indians; but, it appears, that on this occasion, it was not difficult to guarantee himself against it.

The question is not to operate against the Indians, but to prevent the interloping trade the English are driving in a country belonging to us, and which, previous to the last war, they would be careful not to dispute us; this is proposed to be effected by checking at the same time the views they entertain of establishing posts there. It is easy, therefore, to render the Indians indifferent in this regard; nay, even to induce them to understand that for the sake of their own tranquillity and of the freedom of their trade, in which we have never clogged them, they must wish that we should stop the progress of the English schemes.

'Twould therefore be unfortunate if the Marquis de la Jonquière has abandoned the project he had formed for that purpose; and although the private advices announcing that change on his part may be unfounded, it appears, nevertheless, proper not to keep him in ignorance of them; to inform him, at the same time, that his Majesty continues to expect the execution of this project; that there is, in fact, no other course to adopt than to drive from the Beautiful river any European foreigners who will happen to be there, so as to make them lose all taste for returning thither, observing, notwithstanding, the caution practicable in these sorts of matters.

& his Company is gone, the most of Capt Church's are gone, & the rest are to go, (as I am told) in a few days, so there remains none but Capt Slop there, who kept all his Men but four.

I send your Exy inclosed Receipts for the Provisions of the Troops at Oswego, until last May, and I hope your Exy will grant Warrants, that I may have my Money. I have sent Provisions for another Half Year, wch is to next November.

If your Excellency intends to send a Relief to Oswego of the Militia this Fall, as they who are there expect, I hope you will lett me know it p first, That I may gett the Men ready in time.

I hope your Exy will please to Honour me with a few Lines in answer to this p first Opportunity, as I shall be governed thereby.

Wm Johnson

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FR COL. JOHNSON.

While writing this I am told by Parson Mills that Mr Lydius told him that Mons. Pascaud who was order'd to his room when I was at New York upon suspicion of being a Spy, had a Pacquet of Letters to forward to Old France relating to the Clashing between the two Crowns, besides he said at 'York he was of the family of the Pascouds or Packos at Rochell & concerned in the Bourdeaux Company all which Lydius's family says is false, if so I think he ought to be more narrowly examined but first to seize his Papers, this you may mention to the Govr from me wth my Compliments if you please & apologize for my not writing to him abt it being so hurried by the Inds & Express, or else you may have it fm Mr Saml Stillwell to whom Mr Mills tells me he mentioned it. I should choose it so, as I dont care that my Name shoud be so Odious to the treacherous French

[Here follows Gov: Clinton's Order, dated Aug. 2, 1749, for the delivery to Col. Johnson of all Papers relating to the Depart. for Indian affairs.]

LT. LINDESAY TO COL. JOHNSON.

Oswego 15th July 1751.

This day came here from Niagra the Bunt & the Black Princes Son with their Fighters he first Gave me an account how it had fared with them, Told me he found two Forts Built by the French Since he went out one at Nigra Carrying Place & the other by John Cair on the River Ohieo he said he heard a bird Sing that a Great many Indians from his Castle and others from the five nations were gone to Swegage all this he said grived him and he Saw things going very wrong & if a stop was not put to it the five nations wou'd be ruined soon. He Said he was come home for he lookt on this place as such That he was both hungry & Poor & hoped as I represented the Governor and Coll Johnson here I would assist him in a little Provisions & Clothing to his Fighters. I told him was sorrey for the loss he had sustained, but was glad to find his thoughts & mine the same as to the Frenchs Building Forts and the Indians going to Swegage & told him how wrong it was in our Indjans going to Cannada & the Consequencess that would attend it in the best light I could, he agreed with me in all I said & promised to do Everything in his Power to have things better managed & likewise promised in the Strongest Terms to all Coll Johnson would desire of him. I gave him Provisions & Cloathing &c: for his People To the Ualue of five Pounds above what he gave me when he spoke which was three Bevers 27th. this day came the Couse & some other Sinaka Sacham, in order to go to Cannada he came to See me & told me he was sent by the consent of the five Nations to go to the Govs. of Cannada

about the Building the above said two Forts &c. I told him the consequence of Indjans going there but as he is Intirely French all I said was to no purpose Though he seem'd to own the force of what I said as all the other Indians did & I belive all but him might have been stopt but as things are I could do no more by all the Indjans that have been here I find the French Army landed at Nigra about the 26th July in 20 Large Cannoes To the number of 250 or 300 French with 200 Arondaks & Annogongers they are to gather all the Indians as they pase & allso French & will at least amount to 1000 or 1200 French & Indjans, their designs is to Drive the English of that are at or near Ohieo & oblidge The Meomies to come and live were they shall order them All the Indjans who have been here say they and all Indians are to joyn them, while the Bunt was here I had him always with me and did all Layin my Powar to oblidge him he showed the Greatist sence of it & said he would allways do what I asked as he allways had done he is much inclined to us & am Convinced that if Coll Johnson sends for him he will come & take our affairs in hand Hertily & I think he hath it more in his Powar then any to bring things to rights nor is it to be done without him this is my Sentiments & I hope you will pardon my liberty in giveing them, if you approve of what I have said & desire me to bring him down with me ile do my indeavours and he never yet hath refused what I asked of him, there are some French here who mett the Army about Hundred miles to the west of Nigra.

JOHN LINDESAY

To The Honourable Coll Wm Johnson

That at the time appointed for the
ther Colonies, and Indians at Albany, is so
Month, We cannot but dread the ill consequences
should your Excellency not meet without first attending
When there has been no Conference with, nor presents
ge Nations upon the place. For it has been customary for this
this province to meet and confer with them at Albany and give
presents, once in two years at least, and commonly the first year after
Peace. We know not what may be the consequence if your not attending
at this time, after so long a Notice of and preparation for it, especially
a Summer of more than ordinary, that even the Governor of this Colony appointed
himself to represent him on such an occasion. We should wish your
Excellency take that step as the only proper one if your Excellency
was not already, for that the Indians might look upon
themselves neglected by such an Innovation, and thereon long cherished
with which so many have already by the long past ties of marking the
they are already under disputes, and should such unfortunate happen
the enemy to all the English Colonies of America, might be irreparable
by adding a handle to the French Intrigues over the six Nations, which,
there is reason to fear, they would improve to their utmost advantage.
But should circumstances not take such an Innovation in so bad a part, if
by your Excellency's presence and influence with them, at this
critical juncture, you apprehend it may difficult to remove
the apprehensions that will be the French Designs are bringing about
between our six Nations and the Cataw-
ponas and to prevent
Your Excellency's Prudence and Influence with the Indians
and success in your part. Treating with
the Indians on difficult occasions, are the chief Services to us
by the Governor, in the Interim Conference, on the sum given by this
Government, in order to remove and appeasing the Charge of the
Conference, as one of the other Colonies joins, as to give you
the Instructions you desire. And should your Excellency
find the Indians no reason would remain
to Expect.
Expect to your Excellency may not be difficult
in the Conference with the Indians, that your Excellency may easily
return to this City before the Meeting next Month. We cannot but
express our Desire that you may, by staying at Albany
Expectations from you, can divine no other reason than
may be given to the Interest of Great Britain

21:426

[illegible] Journals
[illegible] the Conferences at Albany and at
[illegible] Woodam till your Return. . All which
By Order of the Committee
June 1751. J.a. Alexander Chairm.

His Excellency communicates a Letter from Gov.r Bennet
importing that he now comes to Albany by M.r Weiser a
Condolence to the six Nations accompanied with a small pre
Death of Canasatego and others—that desiring his Excellency
for one of M.r Weisers Sons who now goes with him, to reside a
Fort Hunter for two or three years in order to learn the Langu
the Mohawks and make Him acquainted with their Manners
Customs. The Council advise his Excellency to grant Permiss
accordingly.

At Council held at Fort George in
the City of New York the fifteenth day of June
1751.

Present
His Excellency the Hon.ble George Clinton Capt.n Gen.l
. M.r Colden
. M.r Alexander
. M.r Kennedy
. M.r Chief Justice
. M.r Murray
. M.r Smith.

His Excellency Communicated the Minutes of the Council d
his Stay at Albany which were referred to the perusal and Examin
of the Gentlemen of the Council present at the Treaty Lately held th
with the Indians: and being perused and examined accordingly w
Ordered to be entered, together with the several Speeches made by hi
Excellency to the Indians, and their Answers thereto. Also M.r Bull
Speech made to them, with their Answer, and Governor Glens Lette
to the six Nations and other Indians, meeting at Albany—
Which are as follow. Viz.t

A

Honourable { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James De Lancey, Edward Holland, Esqrs }

Ordered that a Proclamation be Issued to forbid the selling any Strong Liquors to the Indians during his Excellency's Pleasure therein.

At a Council held at Albany the 1st day of July 1731.

Present

His Excellency the Honourable George Clinton

Cadwallader Colden
James Alexander
James De Lancey
Edward Holland
} Esqrs

Lieut Lieutenant Lindesay's report from Oswego, from 29th May, to 30th June 1731. giving an Account of some Onondaga Sachims going to the Governour of Canada, by Consent of the five Nations, to forbid their trading with us in their Country, which he could not prevent.

That the Young Red Head came, and conveyed away to Canada four Oneyde.

That some Mawhaw Indians told him, that Kinnaroch with a Number more of them had taken the English Factory, and Carryed them to Niagara, which made a very great noise.

That Kindaromdia an Oneyda Sachim, came in his way to Onondaga to get the Red Head, which would have been effected had not some perswaded him, and some other Indians of the Oneyda Castle, on seeing them a present in his Excellency's name, on which they desisted.

That three Canoes with some of the five Nations came hither, with some Cochnawaga and Skenandie Indians, and Confirmed the having the English Factory, and that they had been with the Commanding Officer at Niagara with three Belts of Wampum, to get their Liberty, but could not procure it.

That 11 Canoes of Three Rivers Indians

Arrived

21:428

to come and Trade to [illegible]

not be found out, to demolish what

already, and prevent their erecting others

unavoidable stop to all manner of Trade.

That a Canoe from Cadaraqui [illegible]

And the Interpreter of that Place, came to see him, and

he was going to see a Brother of his, but that he was imp

that his Business was to invite all the Five Nations to Can

And recommending Chiguenondie an Onidaga Sachim to

Excellency, to take notice of him, for fear of Loosing him, for h

he had a great Influence over the other Indians, and might

of great Interest to us.

Upon which report being considered, the

Excellency asked the Council's advice, if he should not send a se

Letter to the Governour of Canada, demanding, in his Majesty's n

that he immediately put a stop to building any Forts upon those

as they belong to the King of Great Britain.

The Council advised his Excellency to send

second Letter to the Governour of Canada upon it, and at the sa

time to send a Copy of the 15th Article of the Treaty of Utrec

with it.

His Excellency desired the advice of this Co

How the Expences of Mr Ogilvie's going up to the Mohawks, a

necessary Contingent Expences thereon, and his bringing a Bark

to bring him an Account of the disposition of the Indians, and

making Peace with the Catawba Indians should be defray

They are of opinion that it be paid out of the money

granted by the Assembly for the Interview with the Five Nations of Ind

Read a Copy of a Commission, Instructions and

Appointing Jacob Wendell, Joseph Dudley, and Oliver Partridge, Esqrs

Commissioners for and in behalf of this Province of New Hampshire, to

treat jointly with his Excellency in the Treaty with the Five Nation

of Indians, and other Indians bordering on this Government, now at

this Place.

His Excellency spoke to the Indians in the following

pleased God to take to
place. That the hatchet may now
removed from your hands, that we may
ably proceed to the accomplishment of the weig
to transact with you of my hearty regard for you
e, and that of all your people I give you this String of
Gave a String of Wampum.

At a Council held at Albany the 2d day of
1751.

Present

His Excellency the Hon.ble George Clinton

The Hon.ble { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James Jr. Jancey, Edward Holland. } Esqrs

Sixteen Canoes of the Cochnewaga Indians having arrived
Yesterday, this Morning mag.e a Visit to his Excellency, to wait upon
him which he granted. They came Accordingly. The Chief Sachem spoke to
his Excellency to the following purport viz:

Brother we hope you will not take it amiss to see us here
the reason why we will acquaint that we are come upon a bad design,
but the cause of our coming is our Trade; and we did not hear of your
Excellency's being arrived till we came near to Albany, and as we found you
here by chance, we thought it proper to wait upon you: If we had known
you had been at your Excellency's Fire, we should have brought Beaver
proper to smoke with but as we did not we bring a small Bundle of
Beaver not as a present but in hasting. We thank God that he has
given us a safe Voyage here, and that we now have the pleasure of seeing
your Excellency in health.

This visit is only a Compliment to your Excellency and
to let you know that we intend to return immediately, being to set out this
afternoon or to morrow morning for our own home.

Gave a small Bundle of Beaver, to which his
Excellency gave the following Answer, viz.t

Brethren We are welcome to this place, the path is clear and
&c.

21.430

[illegible] Subjects, and with [illegible]
[illegible]; and I shall be pleased if you [illegible]
with them as formerly. I must recommend
you, to prevent any ill consequences that may
of drinking. Gave them a piece of stroud.

6 Dollars
1 Keg of Rum

For which they returned his Excellency thanks in the
following words, viz.

Brother. We Return your Excellency our hearty
thanks for the present, and say that we did not expect it,
we only came to pay our Compliments to your Excellency,
we will as your Excellency desires, Live in peace with the Subj
of Great Britain, and their Brethren the five Nations, and
no Person or their Cattle in Our return.

The Six Nations having desired a Private
Conference with his Excellency, that they had something to say to
him that was agreed to this morning in their Councils.

They were called in, and Kendrick their Speak
for that time spoke to the following purpose.

Brother Corlear. As this is the place of Consultation
we are now come to consult with Regard to Coll. Johnson we do
remember that when the War broke Out, you recommended Col.
Johnson to the Six Nations, and told us that whatever private
News there was if Coll. Johnson told us, we might depend on it,
as much as if we had it from your Excellency, and it is not one
to us that Coll. Johnson was first recommended to us by your
Excellency, as a person for Our information. We were very much
shocked when Coll. Johnson sent a Belt of Wampum through

the

[illegible], which we [illegible]

[illegible] his knowledge of Our [illegible]

[illegible]ern Indians and we are greatly a[illegible]

[illegible]r Excellency will appoint some person, with[illegible]

[illegible]r Affairs; and we give your Excellency this Bel[illegible]

[illegible]e to raise up the falling Tree.

We desire to have an answer to what we have s[illegible]

[illegible]d that Coll.[illegible] Johnson may be reinstated, for he has large E[illegible]

[illegible]nd heareth a great deal, and what he hears he tells to us; he also[illegible]

Large Eyes and see a great way, and conceals nothing from us

A String of Wampum.

Our fire is kindled at Coll.[illegible] Johnsons, which fire is now a going [illegible]

and here they gave a string of Wampum to have the fire renewed.

We desire his Excellency will be pleased to reinstate Coll.[illegible] Johnson

[illegible]e else we Expect to be ruined.

They then desired his Excellency would be pleased to order their Guns

Hatchetts and Kettles to be mended, which was consented to.

They then desired his Excellency's Answer to their speech

relating to Coll.[illegible] Johnson.

At a Council held at Albany the three

day of July 1751.

Present His Excellency the Honb.[illegible] George Clinton

The Hon.[illegible] { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James De Lancy, Edward Holland } Esq.[illegible]

After the Indians had made a publick condolence on the death

of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and after his Excellency

had Condoled them upon the death of their Sachems, since the last

time he had met them in this place. He directed them to send in two

or three of the principal Sachems of each Nation, to receive his

Answer

Coll. Johnsons ac

agement of the Indian Affairs, was ag

his declining to assist me at this time, is un

cause he gave me reason to expect him in this pla

Interview, to Assist me by his Advice, but since he Abs

to continue in the Management of your Affairs, I can

You tell me that the first appointment of Coll. Johnson

your Affairs, was not owing to you, but you found him a

very usefull to you. This since he desires to continue, I must

some Others. And you may depend upon it, I shall take al

care in my power, to appoint proper persons for this service,

will have your Interest truely at Heart.

A Belt of Wampum.

You have the more reason to trust to me in this, since Coll. John

has been so carefull of you, tho his appointment was without

any recommendation from you. I give this string to remove

Jealousies on this Occasion. A String of Wampum.

I shall take care to light up a Fire for you, in some Where pla

to which you may freely resort, and be kept warm; and hea

all the news that may any ways concern you; and where you

may safely open your hearts. A String of Wampum.

To which the Six Nations Answered, That the One half of

Coll. Johnson belonged to his Excellency, and the Other to the

and since his Excellency could not prevail on Coll. Johnson

to come down, they desired leave to send a Messengers with

string of Wampum to try what they could do; to which his

Excellency consented, provided it did not occasion any

unnecessary delay; and they said they would send a Perso

who should go sooner than a Horse.

Read a copy of a Commission dated the 19th. Ultimo

Constituting

for Other Governments, as shall
ons of Indians, and their Allies; and
sures for the securing the said Indians

Also Instructions from Governour Hamilton
Indian Interpretor for the Province of Pensilvania.

At a Council held at Albany the
day of July 1751.

Present

His Excellency the Honb.le George Clinton

The Honourable { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James DeLancey, Edward Holland } Esq.rs

The Indian Messenger, whom His Excellency permitted the Indians to se
for Coll.o Johnson, having yesterday met him on this side of Schenectady
on his way to this place, where he Arrived last night; he was now called in
Council And His Excellency requested him to Continue the Management
of the Indian Affairs; for that the Indians were very uneasy at his declen
further to Act therein.

To which Coll.o Johnson Answered to this purpose Viz
that it was impossible for him to Continue any Longer in the Management
of Indian Affairs, without a very great detriment, if not ruin, to him in
his private Fortune, as well as a very great fatigue to his Person for that
before the third day of November 1748, he had of his private Fortune laid out
in the Management of Indian Affairs, And for the supply of the Garrison
at Oswego, after Others had declined supplying it, because of the Warr; to
the Value of £1675:3:2¾, of which the Accounts had been from time to
time, duely sworn to by him, and delivered into the Assembly; but the
only made Provision for the payment of £580 1s 9d thereof. so that
there remains £1095 15s 10¾ without any provision as yet made by
the Assembly for the payment thereof; that he has never heard of any
Objection made by the Assembly to his Accounts, nor of any reasons why
the Assembly have from time to time delayed the making Provision
for the payment of the said £1095 15s 10¾. that of the £580 1s 9d

21:434

which

[illegible] out of which the said [illegible]
[illegible] sufficient to pay all that is ordered to be
[illegible] he is well assured that Warrants to others, of
[illegible] date, upon the same fund, have been paid; nor has
been any provision made, to compensate him for delay
after his advances.

That on and since the third day of November at his Excellency's request, he has advanced of his own proper Fortune, in the Management of the Indian Affairs, to the Publick £595. 12s. 8d. as by an Account sworn to by him ready to be produced of which he has received no part, nor does he know of any provision made for the payment thereof.

That it is impossible to Continue in the Management of the Indian Affairs, without great advances, besides his own proper and as there is so much already in Arrear to him, his further Continuance in that management, will increase those Arrears without a Certainty of a Speedy payment.

That he would be willing to do all the service in his power to this Government, in the matter proposed, were he Enabled to do it, but from what is past he has no reason to depend on any thing from the Assembly for that purpose.

The Council advised his Excellency to desire Coll.o Johnson to continue in the management of the Indian Affairs, at least during the Continuance of the present Treaty with them, and that his Excellency would be pleased on his return to England, to represent to his Majesty, the inconveniencies and sufferings Coll.o Johnson has had in his Zealous services of the Crown, the Losses he has sustained in his private Fortune thereby and that Suitable recompence be given him, not only for the money he has advanced, but likewise for the great fatigue and dangers he has personally undergone in this service, for which he has not made any Charge in his Accounts.

Ordered

[illegible] declined being
[illegible]ellor, would Occasion an Extra
[illegible]ians would thereby imagine, that he was
[illegible]ment of the Indian Affairs, and that he was
[illegible] same, on the publick charge.

At a Council held at Albany the
day of July 1751.

Present

His Excellency the Honble George Clinton

The Hont.le { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James De Lancey, Edward Holland } Esq.rs

His Excellency desired the advice of the board, what was to be done relating to the French Cochnawaga Indians, there being near 200 now in this town, as he was informed: which might be productive of Mischief between our Indians and them, as they stay'd so much longer than they promised his Excellency.

The Council advised his Excellency, to send the Sheriff to all the Traders with the Cochnawagas, to acquaint them that his positive Orders were, that the first party that came into this place, should go away immediately; and that the Traders should dispatch the Other parties, as soon as possible, after they had got what things they came to purchase.

At a Council held at Albany the
Eighth day of July 1751.

Present

His Excellency the Hon.ble George Clinton.

The Hon.ble { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James De Lancey, Edward Holland } Esquires

Read.

21:436

[illegible] is the Opinion of the Coun[illegible]
[illegible] in this Jealousy I do have the Catawba
[illegible] to say to the six Nations.

Read Governour Glen's Letter, [illegible]
of South Carolina) to the six Nations, in behalf of
and the Other Southern Indians depending on
in order to make a peace betwen them.

His Excellency Communicated the Accounts
Amount of the Expences already occurred, on the present
with the Indians; which far exceeds the Expences of former
and required their advice upon it, as it must consequently
lessen the publick presents.

The Council was of opinion, that
Notwithstanding it must lessen them, that these Expences o
Scouralling, bringing them down, and carrying them back, ought
to be charged to the money granted by the Assembly for the
presents, as it appears to be a necessary article for that ser

At a Council held at Albany
the 10th day of July 1751.

Present

His Excellency the Hon.ble George Clinton

The Hon.ble { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James De Lancey, Edward Holland } Esq.rs

Read the speech of the Massachusets Bay Commissio
designed to be spoke to the Six Nations.

His Excellency desired the Council to advise relating to the
Indians Boy, detained by Johannes Bradt — The Mayor and
Recorder of Albany were called in, and what they
then could give the Board concerning that matter — The may
said he could not give no further Intelligence, than an Affidavit
taken and sworn to before him the 11th June last, Whereon

Which

[illegible] being repaid what
[illegible] him the ill Consequences of his
[illegible]ks, he promised to deliver the boy to
[illegible]go, which he has not yet done. The Mayor
[illegible] heard that the Indians had been at Oswego, and
[illegible] Rowe, with threatnings about detaining the Boy;
that he the Mayor ordered the said Bradt, to send the boy
him, that he might send him up to Oswego, by some of his
Neighbours that were going further, but he never sent
agreed that an Order by his Excellency (in Council) be delive
to the Sheriff to bring the said Bradt and the Indian Boy
forthwith before his Excellency in Council an Order made ac
accordingly.

At a Council held at Albany the tenth day
of July 1751.

Present His Excellency the Hono^ble George Clinton

The Hons^ble { Cadwallader Colden / James Alexander / James De Lancey / Edward Holland } Esq^rs

Johannes Bradt and the Indian boy were called in, and the
affidavit of Hieronimus Rikeman read; also that of Sybrant Jans
Brouck. Mr Bradt says he actually bought him of his Father,
and that the Father never offered him any thing to return the Boy
upon considering the above prudence, so contrary to the said
Resolutions, and other Informalities, which this Board formerly
had of this matter, and the dangerous Consequences to the Peace
of this Province from such Practices — Ordered that the Sheriff
of the City and County of Albany, take the Indian Boy into his
custody till further Orders — Ordered that Johannes Bradt enter
into Recognizance before the Chief Justice to his Majesty in the
sum of £100, to appear at the next Supreme Court of this

Province

[illegible] Depart[illegible]

[illegible]son being called in, his Excell[illegible]

[illegible]s of the Indian Boy, and send him

be delivered to his Parents, to which Coll[o] Joh[illegible]

would — Ordered that the Sheriff deliver the said

Coll[o] Johnson, when he shall call for him.

His Excellency laid before the Board a Warrant

and Admit William Johnson Esq[r] of his Majesty's

this Province, which was read and is as follows.

George R

Trusty and well beloved we Greet you well Whe

well Satisfied of the Loyalty Integrity & Ability & Our Trusty a

well Beloved William Johnson Esq[r], have thought fit hereby to

our will and pleasure to you, that forthwith upon the receipt hereof

Swear and Admit him the said William Johnson to be of our Co

in our Province of New York in the room of Robert Livingston

deceased; and for so doing this shall be your Warrant. And so

bid you farewell. Given at our Court at St James's the twelfth

of April 1750, in the twenty third year of our Reign. By His

Command

Holdsworth

To our Trusty & well beloved George Clinton Esq[r] Our Captain General and Gov

in Chief of our Province of New York in America, and in his Absence to our Comm

in Chief &c. to the President of our Council of our said Province, for the time be

Whereupon the usual Oath was then administered to Col. Johnson,

he subscribed, and repeated and subscribed the Test, and took the usual

qualification and duly to execute the Office and Trust of a Councellor of this Prov

according to the best of his Skill and Judgment. And then took his Seat at

the Board.

His Excellency Comm[d] to the Board a Letter to him from

several Commissioners of the other Governments, which was read and

ordered.

May it please Your Excellency

altogether defeasible

that has been, in Order to to secure

tions, to the Interest of the Crown of Gr

at but your Excellency is very Sensible, that n

ient Chain, which has been now done, is by Custom

more than matter of formality: That the peace propos

luded between the Six Nations and the Catawbas, is not yet

the Six Nations, they have that matter still under their

nsideration: That a few Presents from the Several Governme

will by no means be a Ballance to have the Six Nations receive

the French: Adding also on that Side of the Question their Artful

and artful Insinuations & Endeavors by their Priests residing

among them, their Intermarriages &c: We therefore Can but Look

upon all that has been done by those Governments, at this Interview

in no other Light than as Arts: The Expectations Conceived by our respec

Provinces: That some new Measures were to be Concerted, for the

promoting his Majt. Interest, & the Security of his Subjects, in regard to the

Indians on the Continent of America. We have Intimated this to his

Majt. Council of New York deputed by you, to Confer with us, & mentioned

to us that your Excellency would lay some general Plan before the

Commissioners from the Several Governments, now met in this City upon

your Excellency's invitation. And after so many days Spent here, we are

concerned to find your Excellency determined to leave this place, without

any measures Concerted or proposed, or Intended to be proposed, so far

as we know, for the Civilizing & Christianizing these Nations, or any other

Views which might tend to the Above mentioned purpose. We neglect

not to observe at this Juncture, when we perceive the French are

running the Ayandant in their Affections, we can't but Apprehend an

Ayrn Inconsequence to his Majts Provinces & Colonies in General.

We therefore hope your Excellency will, for the present lay aside

these Proposals & Treaties so Suddenly as you have proposed, & use

your utmost Art & Influence in this Important Affair: & Appoint Such Time or Times to Confer with us, upon these

Matters, as you shall think proper. We are your Excellency's most

Obedient

21:440.

[illegible] the Honble George Clinton

[illegible] The Said Letter having been
[illegible] was going to receive the Answer of the
Peace with the Cataubas, and his Excellency being
Evening, on his Return to New York, therefore referred it
of the Council to Consider of the said Letter, when he shou
New York, and acquainted the Commissioners therewith.

His Excellency's several Speaches to the Sev
Indians and their Answers at Albany.

On Monday the first day of July 1751 His Excellency in presence
of the Gentlemen of the Council then at Albany, made the follo
Speech to the Sev. Nations.

Brethren

You are Welcome here, I am glad to see you, and cannot
heartily Condole with you on the Death of the Prince of Wales,
Kings Son, and the Loss of your Sachems and others of your peo
whom it hath pleased God to take to himself, since your last Ge
Meeting at this place. That the Tears may now be wiped off your Eye
and Sorrow removed from your hearts, that we may with Equal Ha
and Sincerity proceed to the Accomplishment of the weighty Affair
have now to transact, I am a Sharer of my Brethren Losses for you and
Welfare, and that of all your People. I give you the Belt of Wa

To which the Sev Nations Answered.

Brother Corlear

We are very glad to see you here, the Grief on your and our
hearts for the Loss of the Prince of Wales the Kings Son, and many
our Great Men and Sachems, is so Great, that our Eyes are Ready
Burst with Tears, but as Business is the Cause of our meeting, le
us Moderate our Grief, and wipe the Tears from off our Eyes, that we
may duly attend to Publick affairs. A String of Wampum.

On the third day of July 1751. the Sev. Nations by an Indian Sachem
made the following Speech to his Excellency, in the presence of the
Gentlemen of the Council.

Brother Corlear

We Come to Speak in the Name of the Six Nations. We
heard near this place of the Death of the prince of Wales the Kings
Eldest Son the great Grief that we on our side as well as on your

Excellency

[illegible] and upon [illegible]

[illegible] dyed since the last meeting.

Since our Last Meeting your Excellency [illegible]
of misfortunes, from the murders & Barbarities [illegible]
Common Enemy the French, that the Ground is alm[illegible]
ben with it. But let us Cover their Graves with a Stone. [illegible]
which they Gave a Belt of Wampum.

Cerlaer We the Sachems have met to see your Excellency at this
Place, where our fire has always been kept, and that you and we are
now met to Kindle the Fire anew. A Belt of Wampum.

nother Cerlaer And all the Gentlemen in Authority.

We hope that you will join hand and Heart in the pub[illegible]
Interest: if you should not, it will be our Interest and we must
suffer greatly if we do not prove true and faithfull to each other, and
truly attend to the publick Interest. A Belt of Wampum —

Brother Cerlaer Take Example from the Sun, which has its regular Course
and as the Sun is certain in its motion, Let us be as certain to prove
true in the Cause of our Master, and not deviate in the least —

Brother Cerlaer A Belt of Wampum

Let this mean we have Now Cleared our Hearts for
one another. Let us now prepare our Selves for Business, that we
may transact our affairs with Honesty, Fidelity and Sincerity

Brother Cerlaer A String of Wampum

After what has passed it is a Custom among us, to have
a Pipe of Peace to smoak, to put our Memories into, to which we
desire to refresh our Memorys. A String of Wampum

To which his Excellency answered.

Brethren Do you have Condoled with me for the Loss of his Royal
Highness the Prince of Wales. I do now on my part, Condole with you
for the many Losses we have had in the Deaths of twelve of the
principal Sachems our good friends, and to Convince you how
Condole I am for your Great Loss, I now deliver you twelve Blankets
to cover your Sachems, the twelve Chiefs to Lay upon their Graves
at the Interment are to Grieve no more, but prepare themselves to
attend the publick Business.

Brethren [illegible] I will be sure that you are [illegible] in

Condolen[illegible]

[illegible] you for it.

[illegible] glad to see you here in Order to [illegible]
[illegible] Light Burning in this place, as it has been [illegible]
[illegible] our forefathers. A Belt.

[illegible] I am Come to this place with full Purposes to [illegible]
heard with you, in promoting the publick Interest, and
thing in my power, that may tend towards it, upon whi
may depend. A Belt of Wampum.

Brethren You tell me that I must take Example from the Regu
of the Sun's Course, and that we should be as regular and pu
in Transacting our affairs, as the Sun in its Course, which
faithfully performs upon my part. A Belt of Wampum.

Brethren You say that your Hearts are now Cleared, and would have
prepare for Business, that we may Transact our affairs with
Honesty, fidelity, and Sincerity, which I am Glad to hear, and sh
on my part act with the greatest Sincerity. A String of Wam

Brethren You also tell me that you have a Custom among you, to
the Sins you receive, into a Large Tobacco Pouch, and that whe
any time you are at a Loss for the Sins you have heard, you pu
your hands into the Pouch, and draw them out again. I am mea
pleased with the Care you take in preserving your Sins.
A String of Wamp

Propositions made by his Excellency the
Honourable George Clinton Captain General an
Governor In Chief in and over the Province of
York &c.a to the Six Nations,
at Albany the 6th Day of July 1751.
Present His Excellency
The Hon.ble { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James De Lancey, Edward Holland } Esq.rs of the Council
The Commissioners from the Several Provinces
at Albany and Corporation of Albany.

And

[illegible] forever Endure: as this Chain [illegible]
the Designs of our Enemys, who have at a
Endeavouring to Break it, they would be Glad to
[illegible] Let us then hold it fast, with all our Strength, and

A Belt —

Commissioners, from the Southbourning Colonies of Massa
and Connecticut, have met here at this Council fire in this place,
earliest time, and are now come again, here is also a Commissioner fr
South Carolina, which province dwells a Great way off, hath never Sent
Commissioner before this time. These Commissioners are all Come hither
assist us, in Strengthening, and Brightning fast the Old Covenant Chain
Inow by this Belt on your part, & the King of Great Brittain's Name, a
on Behalf of all his Majesties Subjects in North America, Renew and
Confirm the Covenant Chain, and all former Engagements of Love and
friendship between us and you, that they may Remain firm & Unsha
as long as the Sun and Moon shall Endure. The Chain Belt —

Brethren

The great End and purpose of this Chain, is to Secure trade and
Commerce Between us and you, and by your Means, with all the —
Nations & Indians which Lay to the Westward of you, by those Mean
the power and Authority of the Six Nations, is Greatly Increased among
all their Southwards, so Engaged Come through your Countries to Carr
on this Commerce, so necessary for them, and when they see and
Understand the Strength and Numbers of your Brethren, all over this
great Continent, United together in this Covenant Chain, they must have
a high Esteem of your power, as the keeping the Path open to this place,
from all the Indian Nations to the Westward of you, is of so great Consequ
to you, as well as to the Common Interest of us all, I give this Belt to
remove all Logs, or other Rubbish that may obstruct it. A Belt —

Brethren

The Governor of Canada treads this Union of the Brethren with
, and Join the Mainland. Nations to the Westward and Southward, ac-
[illegible] River Mississipi, for this Reason he is always Endeavouring
[illegible] by Obstructing and stopping the Trade and
Commerce that is Between this place and the Six Nations, who hath
two many Enemies. I am told he is at this time Building a Fort on
[illegible] at Chicagoa, to stop the Indians in their way to trade with
us. I therefore desire you to do this, that the Nations may come
[illegible] and Open the Eyes of all the Southwards. Nations, for there
[illegible] with the Belts and Bundles in their Hands, to which you
and the other Indian Nations must turn, as you [illegible] of
Canada [illegible]

10

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[illegible] care of your Warriors [illegible]
[illegible]men to Niagara, to oblige the [illegible]
[illegible]other Buildings there, or at Ohio, or any
[illegible]ed to Demolish what was already Built. If we
[illegible]r their being Built, than to pull them down after

Another artifice the Enemys of our Covenant Chain
is to Excite Variance and War, Between the Several Indian
are united with your Brethren the English, in the Several parts
Great Continent. Nothing can so effectually weaken, and at last
Destroy the Brethren, as their falling out among themselves, a
mutually Killing and Destroying one another: This is doing the
your Enemys while they sit Looking on, and laugh at your folly. If a
Indian Nations united in Friendship with Carolina, Virginia, Mar
Pensilvania, this Government, Connecticut, Massachusetts Bay and
Hampshire, were Truly and firmly united in the same Councils, wit
and Friendship, how Great would that Power be, what Terror would
Strike on their Enemies, and what would they not Attempt to their Prejud
Able to Accomplish this so much to be desired Union, There is a neces
the Governor of South Carolina, to Send a Gentleman to live, to re
you now See here and to Send with him a Belt of Wampum, the Cha
and to Remain Sixty days at Pittsburg, and be ready with Gen
who are now in this City Ready to make peace with the Enemy Indian
Cause be on your former Friendly Footing in this place, that Peace and
Promised to Secure them, as well as Blood is the Ground, that
Common Belief. Therefore by this Belt I exhort you to keep your Eyes open, the
Peace and Friendship with the Cherokees. It must Ever be Strengthen
the Covenant Chain, and the Common Interest of Mankind Teaches Us
Bear to See those, who are our Brethren, Killing and Destroying
another, and therefore Cannot Doubt of your Chearful Concurring
what I now Propose. A Belt of Wampum

Brethren

I Return on a Little time, to pass over the Great Water to the
their Father. I perswade myself that your Ready Compliance with
I now Require of you, will Enable me to Recommend you to his favour
that I may Tell the King of this, among many other Instances of y
Faithfulness to him, and thereby Secure to you his Protection. And a
the time of my Imbarquing draws near, I must Recommend to yo
as Speedy dispatch to the } A Belt
Great Work before you. }

[illegible] are now met at the Appointed time,
[illegible] whether your Excellency is ready to
[illegible]ency answered yes

It is a Long time since we have had the pleasure
Excellency at this place of Consultation, and we will hear
Excellency's Speech, Paragraph by Paragraph.

Speaker As your Excellency with the Commissioners from Massa-
chusetts Connecticut and Carolina, are come to renew the Covenant
with the Six Nations, we also Come here to join your Excellency
those Commissioners, in that Good Work, and say that we shall be
Inseperable by any accidents of this world, for that Neither Thunder
Lightning or the falling of Trees can seperate us. A Bell —

Other Speaker As the Commissioner from Carolina, have never been here before, to
Sachems, Sir your Brothers Chiefs, have agreed to give him a Name, that
are Come to Come, we should have occasion to talk of him, we may know
the man, and have Those the name (Tachwanaga) and hope he will
always Remember it, in holding fast the Covenant Chain. A Bell —

Brother Speaker By the Old Covenant we are one hand, one Blood, and one Head
are to thank your Excellency for renewing this Covenant and we
shall remain as one, for if any Enemy is here, it affects the whole. A Bell

Brother Speaker Your Excellency desired us to Increase our Interest among
the Six Nations, we now Inform your Excellency, that we have done it, and
all Come to do it, Having got some Cattle & Hogs for Nations sake a
Canastoga, we therefore Request the Assistance & Encouragement of the King & Great
Warriors, we have Built a Stockaded Fort there, to Secure them Cattle
and have the Indian Trade, and Agreed to your Excellency desire we
shall Secure our Interest as much as possible. A Bell —

Brother Speaker Your Excellency also desired we should Send some of our men
to Build Houses each Building and Fort at Onoxara, and we now Inform
your Excellency, that the Seven Nations Going to Canada, we
Can not Leave, as the Land was the Property of their Nations, and at
our return shall Respect an Answer, whether they will desist or no, which
we shall take care to Let your Excellency know, if they do not, &
we shall do as your Excellency directs, and go Some of Each Nation and
Cover the Buildings & Three Forts. A Bell —

Brother Speaker [illegible] we [illegible] Speech

[illegible]

21:446

[illegible] might have been of bad Consequen[illegible]
[illegible] of your going over the great water, [illegible]
[illegible] we wish you all prosperous Voyage, it is a daily
[illegible] we pray to the great God of Heaven, to protect you
[illegible] over we shall be glad to hear of your Safe Arrival, as
has promised to Recommend us to her father the King, which
doubt but you will do, and we return your Excellency our
for your Promise — As your Excellency has been so good as to
of your going over the great water, we desire your Excellency
a Message from us, and Inform the King our father, that the Fr
Endeavouring to take away our Lands, and build Forts on them,
that the King will Inform the King of France of the Proceedings
Subjects, that he may put a stop to it, for that the Land belongs
King our Father, and the Governor of this province —

Brother Corlaer, We would send another Message from you that is, that the
our Father would reinstate Coll. Johnson amongst us, and we
now about to leave us, and have not Choose any person, with whom
Transact our affairs in the meantime, we hope you will Appoint
person, to whom we may bring our news, and from whom we may
receive News — A Belt —

Brother Corlaer We have now fully finished our Answer —

Present in Canada { When his Excellency in private Conversation after to Viscount Le
Earl, Duke, and Twelve Chiefs and to Deputies of the Nine
And among them and the rest of the Warriours.

2 D.o Strouds	12 Guns	1 Dozn Knives
1 D.o half Sticks	50 Flints	2 lb Lead
1 Dozn Collours	2 lb Vermilion	2 lb Gun Powder
12 Shirts —	1 Dozn Rows to put it in	12 Feathers —

When Success for the whole returned his Excellency thanks, and
he was Obliged to his Excellency for Conveniency their hatchet
the War. —

The Speech of Mr. Bull the Commissioner from South
Carolina to the Six Nations.

My Brethren the Sachems and Warriours of the Six Nations.
Gov.r Glen having Invited a Council fire at Albany, and Invited the Eng
Governours and Indians to it, I am come along way over the great Sea from
South Carolina to talk with you at it, and as my Governour Commissioner
from that Province hath not been taken back from me at Albany before
I have case this Belt of Wampum to Children I am glad to see you, and to
the hands with you, that you may know me, and then you can hear to hea
what I have to say to you — A Belt

Brethren

gave me this good talk, and
spoke himself to you. He has fixed the
strong talk, for this Seal ties every thing
I shall be glad to see many Head People from
Bull unto the Governor of Carolina's Letter to the
can with this talk, I deliver this Belt of Wampum, to
is therein Recommended to you. A Belt —

It make my heart glad to see my English Heart sorry, to see Indian
friends to the English, entertaining a war with Each other, it is like
the Striking the Hatchet in your Brethren the English. This
pleasing they to your Enemys — You my Brethren of the Six Nation
all good Friends to the English, and the Catawbas, the Chickesaws the
together some of the Chactaws, and the small Tribes of Indians
in their Settlements, or else good friends to the English, should be
each other, and be Included in the same Bright Chain, which holds
English and the six United Nations together. I am now come against
with the Advice of the Governor of New York, and the Commissioners from
Maryland and Pensilvania Commanded, to Lengthen the Old Covenant Chain for
Brethren and to plant the Tree of peace, may it always be Green, Like the Lau
which Keeps green in Storms in the Winter, that no Wind from the Great Lakes
of your Foes, where the French are Settled, Shall be able to Blow it down
may its Branches Shade each of the Fire, that you the Six Nations and your
Allys may all from the under the Shadow of it, with the Catawbas, Cree
Chickesaws, Twightees Chactaws and the small Tribes Dwelling over
Water, and there more to Join, we may the Lake Wind all that is
pure and Serene to nurse under Ground, that no Copse to grow who desires to dig
up the Tree by the Roots, the Hatchet which you now Open in your sight to Bury
up the Tree, and Hereby Solemnly Engage against Every common
Enemy, that you may Live Easily & Quietly as Gods People over whom
Great King over the Great Waters and your Children shall be very dear unto the Great King
Brethren to Observe this, he Desires to be his Children Likewise, each
one, and a Glad when we Brethren and Sons Amongst — So I present this
Belt and give you this Great Belt of Wampum —

Brethren the Governor of Carolina is so fond that you Warriors should have
some Prisoners for you, in that Government, which you will
keep, in Testimony of the Friendship, which that Province hath for you
Brethren the Six Nations. I have them in my Care, & they shall be
delivered what your Canton makes his Request to you, to Confirm the
Promise given unto this String of Wampum.

Then Answer the Sachems and Warriors of the Six Nations.

We have heard what his Excellency Governor Clinton has said concern
Peace and what his Excellency the Governor of South Carolina hath
spoke to you, and also what I have been said, you will hear not
the Ships of the Governors are come here with no Warlike Stores
to have Leave to Fire at Enemy, he need not Order to make Peace
with you, they know it in the Power of the English Nation
to have Peace and Friendship with the Subjects of the English

Also

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worth the Advice of my g
you, and set out for that Purpose, bu
which hinder'd me. the same Resolution
and the Govr of Carolina agreeing with me,
sol to New York, that we might meet you here at
which greatly rejoyced me, and when I came away,
shook hands with me, and desired me for them to make
I give this Belt, which has all my Brethren upon it, Signify
they all join in my desire.

Weare all Friends to the English and resolve to be so with
Brothers the Six Nations, and as soon as our People are ma
that do not know of the Peace, when they are all returned, and th
path Clear and Safe, I will come to your Towns and Houses, a
smoke with You, as I should in my own [Here the Sinnekost, a
then the other Catawbas shook hands w the Six Nations]
So much the Six Nations Answered.

Brethren Weare glad to see you here, and return you thanks for y
kind Speech. but as it is a thing of moment, we must take time
Consider of it, and shall Answer you this Evening or to Morr
Morning.

When his Excellency told the Six Nations, he would
them their Presents, when they had answered the Catawba

The Answer of the Six Nations to the Speech of His
the Commissioners from both Carolinas

At Albany the tenth day of July 1751.

Present His Excellency the Hono. George Clinton Esq.

The Hone. &c. { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James De Lancey, Edward Holland, William Johnson } Esqrs of the Council

The Commissioners from the several Provinces.
The Mayor & Corporation of Albany.
The several Officers of the Regiment Company and other Gentlemen
from New York Attending his Excellency and the Commissioners from
Canada.

The Catawbas being come down from their Quarters,
the Chief Sachem of the Senecas Lit a pipe, and put it in the mou
each of the Catawbas, who smoked out of it, and then he returned
to the Six Nations. And then the Six Nations began.

Brethren Catawbas &c

We have received the Belt and Speech, we
Return

particularly Anickwan

[illegible] thank your Excellency and the [illegible]
[illegible] the Indians murdering one another, [illegible]
be Buried, no Sir Natural person can find it [illegible]
and others the Commissioners.

Anickwanaga his Speech by a Belt of wampum to [illegible]
Came here to Treat about Peace, that the English and Indians
might sit in peace and rest, we thank you for your good design, and
heartily Consent to it, we may it have Long and last peace. [illegible]

Another Certain Ind.[n] Anickwanaga also told us, that he brought with him
some of his Brethren the Shawanos, and gave us a Belt to Open our
Ears that hereafter we have heard them, and Thank him for his Love

A Belt
Anickwanaga. He told us, that although he
a great way, he Brought some things on his Horses as a present for
us to Smoak with, we gave him a String of Wampum. —

Another Certain Ind.[n] He bid us a few days ago, we desired you to take up the
Tomahawk, Anickwanaga & Col.[o] Johnson Meaning, and Leave us
Long Peace & Tranquility as with the Good Spirit, we are
glad that we Cannot Buy them, and desire your Excellency will
Order them to be Cleared Charges, we will be answerable for all things
the Cannot Claim. A String of Wampum. —

When the Ind.[n] Sachems Spoke to the Calaways as follows
Brethren the Calaways

You came to our Forefathers Fires, to make
Peace with us, and we have heard your kind Speech, and Thank
you for it, and as often that you Came to make Peace, and we
Looked on our Friends, we Give you this whole Belt of Wampum.
to Treat about your Affairs, that all that evil, may from many you
have been here and were received as our Friends. —

Answer the Calaways.

You Brethren to make us more Sure of it, and
as we have Short Memories, has been a Custom amongst the Indian
Nations, that when they Come to the Peace, the Governor would
tell them and when you return with Prisoners, the peace shall
be Confirmed, and your Home Lengthened, and we are glad upon
to Return with the Prisoners, and if you do not Chuse to Return
you shall Look upon the Peace as Void. —

Brethren the Calaways

[illegible] we will take your Speech to the Great Water
[illegible], hear the final Determination [illegible] and Received
[illegible] Belt. [illegible] hereby you Return

as then

21 650

[illegible] good Custom, that [illegible]
[illegible]ney, and if you send Some of your [illegible]
[illegible] them to my own house, and there shall Lodge
[illegible] all the Prisoners I have to them, and Come with
[illegible] in Safe to their own doors.

the Calambas. As to your Request of Sending Some of our Country, it is Unprecedented, and what we never have done in time of Meeting; and Now our People are prepared to go: there I agree to it. But we may at the Second time Send Some of our People for you.

Then the Calambas Answered

We shall Come in as Short time to your Towns, and you may to [illegible] to Compleat the Peace for Ever.

The Six Nations Answered

the Calambas We desire when you Come again, you'll Come by Water bring a Commissioner with you, that we may know you to be the for there are Several Nations which are in Confederation with us, may not know of this Peace, the path may be dangerous, and dan what is now done. but if you Come to this place you'll be safe.

Here his Excellency Spoke to the Six Nations and Indians.

Brethren I am Glad to be Informed by you, of the Success of your Indea to Increase your Strength and Interest among other Nations - you have Received Nine Gaules into the Covenant Chain, and that have Acknowledged themselves Subjects of the King of Great Britain

I approve of what you have done, and hope you will Continue Endeavours for Peace Sake, and I shall Likewise [illegible] Gaul, Law upon the Ring your Father, what you have Treated me a Relation to Colo. Johnson, and Your Intentions upon, I am Glad Friendship held over. I have Considered upon what you Desire that I would be a Chief at Onondaga as the Traders Cant afford them.

To which the Six Nations Answered

Brethren Colaire We desire Colo. Johnson may be Remembred, for when we Six Nations went to Canada, about the French Burning Niagara, one of your Excellency Ofspring Came to Seek us for you would Intend to hear what Answer they Brings.

Which his Excellency Answered telling them, that on his Return to New York he would Advise with the Council as to the Appointment of Some Person for their Affairs.

Then Ordered the Prisoners to be Cut, and gave them, and at the same time Mr. Paul gave his

The

[illegible] the Cherokees, [illegible]

[illegible] great part of the Chactaws, [illegible]

[illegible] with some of these Nations, or that [illegible]

[illegible]ks, the Charraws, Euchees, Notoes, Cedeas, [illegible]

[illegible]s, and as they are friends to the English, it has [illegible]

[illegible]ver, to keep them grudging with one another. The French [illegible]

[illegible] of late some Years are to get an Interest among them, and [illegible]

[illegible]ivate their affections from us, but finding their Attempts and [illegible]

their real design has been to Kindle the Flame of War amongst them, therefore to reclaim them, as they may be easily brought to remember, that they have been too successfull, having [illegible]ost already made a breach between the Creeks, and Cherokees, after [illegible] relinquished it, and had happily healed those wounds that had been long bleeding, however I hope I shall still Reconcile all their Differences, and it would give me an equal pleasure, if I could Concert in Conjunction with the Governor of New York, to Adjust and Settle the Boundary Line between the Six Nations and the other Indians to the Northward, and the Catawbaws, Creeks, and other Southward Indians, I have some time ago talked to the Catawbaws upon this subject, in the Presence of some of these who are with this Letter, and their King would have been willing to give a Grant of an hundred Miles Square, but our Death prevented him, however the King and the Headmen, and all the nation in General, are now desirous to Enter in Bonds of Friendship, and that nothing may hereafter arise, to Interrupt the Union and Peace now and time to come be mentioned or thought of, and are willing and desirous to take a Space, and to Bind themselves in one Chain of Friendship with us as Brothers of the Six Nations and the other Southern Indians, to be Held by the Governor of New York, and the same to be by the Governor of South Carolina, and I hope you again to Shun [illegible] have not such Proceedings as I thought you might have Cause to Fear the Shedding of Blood between you and the Shawnes, but Retire you and the Creeks, and all Southern Indians, may the Chain never contract any Rust, but Shine like the Sun in the Firmament, may the Peace last while the Sun endures. I am my very good friend & Loving Brother. James Glen Gov.r of So. Carolina. (L.S.)

South Carolina May 25.th 51.

21452

Copy of Proposals from Onondaga

Excellency.

Your Excellency on the 10th Instant at
at Albany, a Letter which your Excellency
the Commissioners of Massachusetts bay, South Carolina
intimating that the good Intentions of the Government they
much if not altogether defeated, if without more Loss, some
secure the Indians of their Nations to the Interest of the Crown

Upon this Letter we shall be glad to know your Excellency
proposed at Albany, between the Council and the Commissioners of the
Governments; whereby it will appear to us Clearly, that there is no
Commissioners to Onondaga, but there was any Request on your Excellency
Council that I should go.

On the 3rd. Instant by your Excellency's direction, there was
Meeting at your House in Albany of the Council and the several Commis
when a Draft of what your Excellency proposed to say to the Indians of the
Nations, was laid before the Council, and the Commissioners of the several Prov
met at Albany, and read. The Commissioners were all drawn together that
thing to propose, that they could not undertake to do, as the Instructions
were to Conclude Measures for procuring the Assistance of those Governments
subjects in Regard to the Indians on the Continent.
them England has a Power that must have a very great Influence on the
that Country should be kept to Duty in such of their Governments as lie
higher Places to mend their Ways, Taken to, and that their Quotas
maintained and paid at the Joint Charge of the several Governments. To this
of the Commissioners answered that tho' New York had the benefit of the Trade
those Indians, they ought to bear the whole Charge. Upon this I was
leave to observe to your Excellency, that the Expence to that Province of
Government only, amounts to Eleven hundred and fifty pounds Currency
annual Charge of upwards of five hundred pounds for presenting the Goods
Charge with Provisions &c. and the Contract Charge of the Chief who
Commissioners to Treat and with the Indians. Whence we Conceive the Com
Objection to that Proposal was not well founded.

It was proposed by some of the Commissioners that a Clause should
Inserted in your Excellency's Speech to the Onondaga and the other
Nations of Indians, to receive Missionaries to live among them — This
was objected to by the Council in the strongest manner to be
that the Council thought that the Indians might be induced to
Indifference in the Colony the Government entirely
that the Setting up and Maintaining such Missionaries among them, will
greatly to Conduct in Regard to the Interest, even the Safety of the Indian
and Repel the artful Endeavours of the French Priests. But the Objection
a Foundation that Power; that as no Province can make or Treaties
Measures into the Indian Countries, and Land for their Missionaries
are to Reside; that when there, have all been Protected and Encouraged
Governments of the Indians, to receive Missionaries among them, and they
to say that the Proposal was not well founded.

[illegible] at that time in Discourse. They
[illegible]ellency's Speech to take Copies of it. They
[illegible]erations they should think necessary, and to make
[illegible]ching which they Criticised would provoke the publick
[illegible] Resolved by all Present, to meet in the same place
agree upon the Speech. The next day they met Accord
the Commissioners proposed some alterations to the Draft of
which were agreed to and one Letter but nothing was mentioned
former Proposal Concerning Disbursements. So that the Council
that they had Reconsidered, upon full Consideration of the weight of
Reasons, which had been offered the day before.

This is a plain Narrative of what passed at the two meetings
the Council therefore were not a little surprized to find that the
Commissioners of the several Governments, after so many days
had Recourse to their Leiger Letters at Home, when they knew
Province could not have Time to give them a full Answer, to
Instructions, to any Additions to be proposed by the Massachusetts
Council, enough Time to leave the Town; When upon Recalling only
to be Liberty to give their Answer to the Proposals of Peace made
by the Commissioners and when it was well known notwithstanding what
the Commissioners pleaded to the Contrary in their Letter that
in Time to send to the Place where the Commissioners, and have made
Proposals to be Returned to the Province of Pennsylvania
Council to the Commissioners within 8 Days after

We have not made any Objections to this Letter, nor to the
Proposals with any Heat; but the Unreasonableness of it
appear to every Impartial Person to whom the Province Liberty, that we
have Reason to Suspect, whether the Leiger Letters, which they
Province, the Commissioners of the other Governments to
should not have had Instructions, that they Continued there much
longer than the Peace & Quietness of the Province
Council there now to make them in Behalf of the
Province. If such is to be admitted to prove Reasons
Proposals &c. Submitted, &c.

James Logan Pres. Council. 6

Sept. 14th July 1708.

Minutes of
Council in

Sallary & other allowances are to commence & take place upon the Day the said Head Lynch his executing the said Articles on his part And we do hereby from the time of his executing the said Articles suspend revoke & make null & void all & every other Deputation &c

Under their hands & seal of office Dated the 6th day of August 1742

It contains a General Deputation of all their powers in his Majesty's Dominions in North America & the West Indies from the 6th day of August 1742 during the term of ten years or so long as he shall well demean himself therein

Cadwallader Colden to Dr. John Mitchell

[Unaddressed and unsigned copy in Colden's handwriting]

Coldengham July 18th 1751

Dear Sr

When I went to Albany this summer with the Govr I was resolved to make all the enquiry in my power in relation to the lands claimed by the five Nations in order to answer the Queries you proposed to me & I had for that purpose agreed on a meeting with some of the Principal Sachems But the Govr having fixed on a day for his embarqueing we were so much hurried in the business we were then upon that while I remained at Albany we could not have any time free from more pressing business to meet for that purpose I was the less concerned for this disapointment because I did not think that any thing very material could be obtained more than what I have allready sent to Mr Shirley None of the five Nations have lived near lake Champlain in many years but the lands round that lake have been allwise claimed by the five Nations & part of them by the Scakkook Indians under them No other Indian Nations had any pretence to them unless the Cahnuagas pretend to it

by their being originally of the five Nations they speak the same language & deserted to the French. Perhaps the French may set up a title from them. Any attempt to stop entirely of the Sachems of the Five Nations from going to Canada would be vain while the Govr of Canada will give them presents when they come there & when there they will say & do things to please him their Maxim now is to keep well with both sides if they can You know the Indians have no registers whereby they can prove their right to what they claim It wholly depends on Tradition & hearsay evidence & that therefore their claims must be subjected to disputes But it is evident the French of Canada pay no regard to the Treaty of Utrecht otherwise they could have no pretence for building at Niagara. Since they themselves by asking leave of the Five Nations to build there own it to be their land & consequently by the Treaty of Utrecht subject to the Crown of Gr Brittain No arguments but that of a Superior force will be effectual with them & since the English Colonies are so much superior to the French in that Argument it is not easy to account why it is not made use of in defending the rights of the Crown from their incroachments of the French If we would only effectually support the five Nations as Auxiliaries the French insolence would soon be humbled & they would entirely loose their influence among all the Indian Nations in North America. If the French in Canada had the same advantages in money & force over us that we have over them they would not hesitate one moment in making use of them

I send along with this a Copy of an account [1] of the present State of the Indian affairs with the English Colonies (which I drew up at our Govrs desire & which I suppose he will communicat to the board of Trade) in hopes you may be of use in promoting the design I had in writing it.

We are now waiting with impatience for the resolutions of the Kings Ministers on the report of the Board

[1] Printed in *N. Y. H. S. Collections for 1920*, 271-87.

of Trade & the Kings servants in the Colonies know not how to behave till the Resolutions are known Whether the King be resolved to support his Prerogative in America or the executive powers are to be in the Assembly as in the last resort for according to these resolutions every man for the future must regulate his conduct. I am perswaded that whatever any may think in an independent state this last would not be thought prudent in a state depending on another In the meantime the public service suffers & the French will every day gain advantages in America while we remain under these uncertainties. The People of America find it so difficult to draw the attention of the Ministry to any thing that concerns them & are so much affrayed of being left in the lurch & Governors are so unwilling to embroyl themselves in matters which can only give trouble without profit that these are the true reasons why the French were not driven from Niagara & from Crown point. Let the Ministry shew themselves to be in earnest & then we will

Mr Clinton did not doubt of his Interest being sufficient to obtain the Kings leave of absence from his Govt & had accordingly fixed the day for his imbarquing About eight days before that time & after his baggage had been put on board of the Greyhound he received a letter from his Agent Mr Catherwood telling him that the Duke of Bedford refused to give his consent to the obtaining his leave of absence but at the same time added that he was commanded to tell his Excellency that when he did leave his Government his Grace of Bedford expected that he would not leave the administration in Mr De Lanceys hands This can only be don by suspending Mr De Lancey from the office of Lt Governor in which case the administration will in course fall into my hands. But while his Majesty's pleasure is not known I must in such case have been laid under many difficulties which could not happen were the Kings pleasure clearly & publicly known that Mr De Lancey is not to be trusted with the administration of Govt I was well pleased therefor that Mr Clinton changed his resolution of leav-

ing his Govt till such time as he shall obtain the Kings leave of absence as it is dangerous indeed for him to do it without leave I hope now that before Mr Clinton leaves his Govt the resolutions of the Ministry on the report of the Board of Trade will be fully known & that we shall thereby learn what kind of conduct in politics will be most agreable to our Superiors for the resolutions of the Ministers at this time I firmly believe will determine all those in their future conduct who know what has passed in this Province & probably will be a lesson for our posterity

I am far advanced in years I have served the Government about 30 years without any Sallary & in such a manner as my Ennemies can lay nothing to my charge for none can doubt of their being willing if they could & meer calumnies are a strong proof of innocence I never had any talent at getting or saving money tho' I never was expencive but I have had a large family to support & I wish to be usefull to them before I leave them However insignificant I may otherwise be yet the past transactions in this Province have set me in such a light in all the Colonies that here after I shall be named as an example how far it is safe in the Colonies to oppose & thereby expose on self to the malice of a popular faction or prudent to rely on the Kings Ministers on the sole merit of a sincere zeal for the public service

It is now time to beg your excuse for giving you so much trouble I have been above 35 years out of Gr. Brittain & all my personal acquaintances in London are Dead I have no correspondent besides your self & Mr Collinson In a former this summer I presumed so far on your friendship as to pray your assistance in obtaining the Contract for the office of D Post Master Genl of America By what I have heard of the persons who enjoy'd this office last I cannot think that it requires any great interest to obtain the same contract they had I do not expect it upon other terms & my situation at New York near the center of the Post roads will

enable me to perform the Duties of that office better than the last who lived in Virginia could & who as I am well informed concerned himself no farther in it than to receive his Sallary. If this should be obtained & the Gov^{t} think proper to employ me in Mr Clinton's absence the two offices will be of greater use to one another in the same hand than they can be in different. I can expect to have the administration but for a short time & perhaps with more trouble than profit. But this office by it self will be very convenient for me in my old age & for that reason am very desirous of obtaining it. In the last place I must beg of you to let me know as soon as possible what I am to expect I have been now four years in an uneasy state of uncertainty which I wish to be freed from at any rate when this happens I shall be a less troublesome & more agreable correspondent by satisfying your curiosity in every thing you desire of me as far as in my power In the mean time I shall collect some of the seeds you desired & send them by the fáll ships.[1]

I sent my Treatise of the Principles of Action in Matter & of the Motion of the Planets by Captn Rutherfurd who I expect will wait on you & that you have had the pleasure of his Conversation because he is an agreeable Gent^{n} & can inform you of many things

The forming of this treatise required such a close application of thought that it will not be easy for me to bring my mind to reconsider that subject & therefore I am willing that the book shall take its fate as it is though there should be many objections to it I am so much convinced that I am right in the main that I am perswaded the Principles I there lay down will at last prevail & therefore I would have it printed as it now stands

[1] This sentence is substituted in the margin for the following sentence, which is crossed out:

I propose to gather some of the seeds of the Thuja or arbor vitæ Abies Spruce pine dicta, Abies foliis pectinatis Hemlock dicta Larix & some others peculiar to this Country as soon as the season will permit me to gather the Seeds I sent some of the Thuja to Mr Collinson who writes to me that they were all come up which I mention because that seed generally fails

May it please your Excellency

Your Excellency on the 10th Instant at Noon Communicated to the Council at Albany, a Letter which your Excellency had just been received from the Commissioners of Massachusets Bay, South Carolina, and Connecticut, intimating that the good Intentions of the Governments they represent, will be very much if not altogether defeated, if nothing more be said or done than what had been to secure the Indians of the Six Nations to the Interest of the Crown &c.

Upon this Letter we shall beg leave to remind your Excellency of what passed at Albany between the Council and the Commissioners of the Several Governments, whereby it will appear, as we conceive, that there is no room for the Commissioners to insinuate, that there was any neglect in your Excellency, or the Council that Attended you.

On the third Instant by your Excellency's direction, there was a Meeting at your House in Albany of the Council and the Several Commissioners, when a Draft of what your Excellency proposed to Say to the Indians of the Six Nations, was laid before the Council and the Commissioners of the Several Provinces met at Albany, and read — The Commissioners were then asked, if they had anything to propose, that they would Communicate at once the Design of that Meeting was to concert Measures for promoting his Majesty's Interest, and Securing his Subjects, as well as the Indians in the Covenant Chain of the Council then proposed (as a measure that might have a very good Effect upon the Indians) that Smiths should be sent to reside in each of the Tribes of the Six Nations at proper places, to mend their Guns Hatchets &c. and that these Smiths should be maintained and paid at the

the Joint Charge of the Several Governments. To this some of the Commissioners answered, that as New York had the Benefit of the Trade with these Indians, they ought to be at the whole Charge. Upon this I answered, I begleave to observe to your Excellency, that the Expence to this Province upon this Interview may amount to three hundred and fifty pounds: Besides a Constant annual Charge of Presents of five hundred pounds, for defraying the Garrison at Oswego with Provisions &c. and the Constant Charge of an Interpreter to correspond with the Indians. Where we conceive the Commissioners objection to that proposal, was not well founded.

It was proposed by some of the Commissioners, that a Clause should be inserted in your Excellency's Speech, to recommend and persuade the Six Nations of Indians to receive Missionaries to be sent among them. This was objected to by the Council as an improper measure to be then taken: for that the Council thought that the sending Missionaries, if indeed the Indians would be of no Service. On the Contrary the Commissioners carefully proceeded that the sending and maintaining proper Missionaries among them, would tend greatly to promote his Majesty's Interest; secure the Fidelity of the Indians; and defeat the artful Endeavours of the French Priests. But the Objection was good on this Reason, that as no Provision were made for sending Missionaries into the Indian Countries, nor any Fund for their Maintenance and Support, when there; had it been proposed and prest by your Excellency on the Indians, to receive Missionaries among them, and they had accepted of the proposal, and we had been Immediately sent to reside among them, and we could not Learn whence they should be sent, or how maintained, the Consequence

would

would have been, as we apprehend, that the Six Nations would have been disgusted at the disappointment, and the French would have made an immediate Interchange of it, by supplying them with Provisions of their own, which by such Insinuations would have wrought great prejudice to the British Interest. These Reasons were offered to the Commissioners at that time in Assurance. They Carried with them the Draft of your Excellency's Speech to take Copies of it. They were desired to propose any Alterations they should think necessary, and to make any new proposals in Writing, which they Conceived would Promote the publick Service. And it was resolved by all present to meet in the same Place next day, finally to agree upon the Speech. The next day they met accordingly, when the Commissioners proposed some alterations to the Draft of the Speech, which were agreed to and Inserted: But nothing was mentioned of the Former proposal concerning Missionaries. So that the Council concluded that they had dropped it upon full Consideration of the weight of the Reasons which had been offered the day before.

This is a plain Narrative of what passed at the two Meetings, the Council therefore were not a little Surprized, to find that the Commissioners of the Several Governments, after so many Days silence, should deliver your Excellency their Letter at Noon, when they knew your Excellency could not have Leisure to give them a full Answer, as you were then leaving Albany, and had been before waited by the malecontents Commissioners to draw Letters the Seven Nations your Excellency only waited for the Six Nations to give their Answer to the Proposals of Peace made by the Chambers; and when it were to Answer, (which the reading what the Commissioners are pleased to say to the Contrary in their Letter) that the Six Nations had agreed to the Peace

with

with the Cherokees, and have invited some Heads of the Seneca Indians, & Cayugas, to accompany the Indians to return to the Cherokees as a token of Love and Friendship.

We shall not make any reflections on this Letter, nor shall we Comment upon any part of it; Let the thing speak itself. Only we Cannot but take notice that we are Obliged to Write to your Excellency, that the Expence of maintaining the Indians while at Albany depends upon your Excellency, the Commissioners of the other Governments refusing to Contribute any share of that Expence, And they Continuing there much Longer, the Expence of Maintaining them would have almost Consumed the whole present upon Exchange was to make to them on Behalf of this Province.

All which is humbly Submitted
To your Excellencys
most Obedient
& humble Servants

Cadwallader Colden
Jas. Alexander
James De Lancey
Lid.r Holland.

New York 10.th July 1751.

A true Copy Exam.d with the Original By Jo.s Murray D.C.G.

Copy
Commissrs Report on the
Letter to Governor Hardenbrook from
the Commissioners at Albany

140.

New York 29th Dec 1758.

( )Sir.

( ) I am commissioned upon the part of the
Creditors of Messrs Bridant and Depau to
solicit from the Merchants of this City payment
for those debts which they owe to the Estate
upon which Messrs Bridant & Depau have assigned
their effects for the benefit of their Creditors

I am

Your Honours

very Humble Servt.

Wm Smith

Hono. Mr Spencer & Philips Esqrs.

find hereafter Its True that I did inform you that the Indian History was well receiv'd, but for what Reason I cannot tell the Sale of it fell off before I sold one Quarter of the Impression and the Demand has been So very Smal ever Since That I was Glad to dispose of them at any Rate and what I had remaining upon my hands. I sold for Twelve Pence a Book, so that I am a Loser by that undertaking at least Thirty pounds Therefore I cannot give Encouragement to continue it on I shall be proud of Serving you with any Thing that I have but am determined for the future to Trade for nothing but ready money by which means I can afford to Sell cheaper than another.

I am S^{r}
Your Most Obedient Humble Servant
THO OSBORNE

Gray's Inn London
July 20, 1751

[Endorsed]
For CADWALLADER COLDEN Esqr
at
New York

Cadwallader Colden to Clinton
[Copy]

The present state of the Indian affairs with the Brittish & French Colonies in North America with some observations thereon, for securing the Fidelity of the Indians to the Crown of Great Brittain & promoting Trade among them.

In obedience to your Excellency's Commands, I have collected the Informations we have received relating to the Indian affairs with the English & French Colonies & put them in Such order as from thence their true state at this time may be put in the clearest light, For this purpose it is necessary to go so far back, as the time when your Excell^{y} engaged the six nations in the expedi-

tion intended against Canada in the year 1746. Your Excellency no doubt remembers in what Disposition the Six Nations were then what influence the French had gained among them, & How the Commiss^{rs} for Indian affairs at that time in this province had, even by their own confession, lost all influence among the Indians. That at that time Mr Johnson distinguished himself among the Indians by his indefatigable pains among them, & by his compliance with their humours in his dress & conversation with them that he was the chief Instrument, under your Excellency, in persuading them to enter into the War against the French; but that it was principally effected by the very large presents publickly made to them, by your Excellency at that time, & continued through Mr Jonsons hands from time to time till the peace was concluded & for some time afterwards The Commiss^{rs} for Indian affairs having lost all influence on the Indians Your Excell^{y} found it necessary to commit the whole conduct of Indian affairs to Colonel Johnson to Command them with a Commission of Indian affairs & being furnished with larger sums for this Service by the Crown, with a Colonels pay for himself, he made a greater figure, & gained more influence among the Indians than any person before him (so far as I have learned) ever did. And it is no wonder, since he had advantages much greater than any one before him ever had. This ascendency, which he had gained over the Indians, appeared, by his being able to prevent their sending to Canada, to confirm the peace & to exchange their Prisoners as before this time they had allwise done, & in their trusting entirely to your Excell^{y} for the recovery of their people, who were detained prisoners in Canada, by which they gave the French an undoubted proof that they looked on themselves as subject to the Crown of Gr. Brittain. The allowance for Indian affairs from the Crown being stopt, on the Conclusion of the Peace, & the Assembly refusing to grant so much as the usual allowances made to the Commiss^{rs} for Indian affairs in time of Peace, Coll Johnson found himself disabled to

carry them on without great prejudice to his private fortune: & if he had gon on in the expensive manner, to which he had accustomed the Indians might have ruined his fortune being discouraged by the want of necessary suplies Coll Johnson desired his Dismission from this Service & at last without your Excell^{y}s Privity sent a Belt round all the nations, whereby he informed them that he no longer took care of their affairs. This was a very odd step, such as nothing of the kind had ever been don before, & occasioned extraordinary speculations among the Indians of which it is supposed the French Emissaries took advantage.

The Commission for Indian affairs had been for many years past intrusted with the Dutch at Albany. The last Commissioners had joined openly with the Faction in the Assembly, in opposition to the administration & the Gover^{ns} Measures; & they were, on the other hand remarkably favour'd by that Faction in the representations & Remonstrances published by that house. They openly assisted each other in infusing prejudices in the minds of the People to your Excellency's administration.

These Commiss^{rs} were influenced by two motives. First by resentment, for the loss of that Authority which they had so long possessed, & this resentment was increased by its being put into the hands of an Englishman, whom the Dutch look on as intruders into their patrimony. The other was, the loss the Commiss^{rs} thereby sustained in their private or personal trade, or at least imagined that they did; for as the Indians, when they come first to Albany, go first to the Com^{rs}, they thereby gain a preference in the buying of furs; & likewise make use of the money allowed them for presents to the Indians in drawing the Indians to trade with them preferably to others. This is evident, by the interest the Traders make, to be put into that Commission, which otherwise could have no profit attending it, but by the Methods here supposed. Coll Johnson is the most considerable trader with the Western Indians & sends more goods to Oswego than any other person does, the People of

Albany imagined, that his having the Conduct of the Indian affairs gave him great advantages For as he lives near the Mohawk castle, & near forty miles west from Albany, all the six Nations & other Indians to the Westward stopt at his house, & were there suplied, & from that time few or none were seen in Albany. This touched a people in the most sensible part, who have no other view in life but that of getting money

When the War broke out the Contractors for supplying the Garison at Oswego refused to continue their Contract, unless a very considerable allowance were made them for escortes & other extraordinary expenses. Coll Johnson undertook it & supplied a double Garrison at Oswego by advancing the money on the faith of the Assembly. He advanced money for several other publick expenses by which a very large sum of Money became due to him from the Province. The Faction in the Assembly took a method in favour of their friends at Albany which had been often before practised even with Governors themselves, to induce them to comply with the humours of an Assembly, to the prejudice of the prerogative: & tho' in itself the most ungenerous, that can be well imagined, yet had allwise proved effectual, because no private single man was able to hold out against it. It was this, The Assembly, under various pretences, delayed or refused the payment of the sums, which Coll Johnson had advanced for the service of the Gov^{t}, some times by directing the payment to be made out of Funds, which they themselves knew to be exhausted, & by the Treasurer (who is the Assembly's creature) his giving preference to Warrants payable to others tho' of posterior Date, & by the Assembly's arbitrarily cutting off some part of his Accounts, tho' they were proved in the manner the Assembly required: This they did without mentioning what articles were disallowed, or giving him any opportunity of proving them, or assigning any reason why they were disallowed. See Minutes of Council of Albany in July last & Coll Johnsons Memorial to his Excellency. By these means near

two thousand pounds of the money which he has advanced, remains still due to him: & this without his chargeing any thing as a Sallary or reward for his services or any interest for the money now several years due to him. After such usage, it could not be expected, that Coll Johnson would go on in the Service of the Gov^{t}, by advancing money on the Credit of the Assembly for that Service, while the Assembly not only refused to grant funds as was usual for those Services, but refused to pay what was allready due.

The Act, by which the Garrison at Oswego is supported by a Duty on Rum & strouds sold to the Indians, is contrived in such manner that the Conscientious & fair Trader may be easily entangled, & brought under difficulties, while the fraudulent dealer may gain great advantages over him: & the Collectors of those Duties have it in their power to favour their friends, & distress those they dislike. The Collectors have been so far favoured by the Faction in the Assembly, that tho they have for several years paid nothing of the produce of those Duties as the Act directs into the Treasury, they have never been called to an account for the same. And the Six Nations complain heavily, the Mohawks especially, who live intermixed with the Planters, that they must pay so much more for Rum & strouds, then their neighbours do. There is much reason to think, that all the strouds sent to Canada is exempted from this Duty, whereby the French gain a great advantage over the English fair Trader for these for these goods sold to Frenchmen is not subjected to the Duty whereby the French are enabled to sell the goods, which they buy at Albany, cheaper to the Indians, than the English can do at Oswego But the greatest discouragement in the management of the Indian affairs is by the Indians being instantly cheated by them with whom they deal. This is a mischief that has been long complean'd off, & unless some law were passed for the preventing of it, I know not how it can be remedied. For as the law now stands, an Indian before he can obtain redress must see a Lawyer, must

take out a writ, file a Declaration, & at least wait 12 months for Justice at 2 or 300 miles distance reaching 400 from his habitation, & without one farthing to support him or to defray the charges of the suit. And then his Evidence is not admitted in any of our Courts, nor the evidence of any other Indian. Can these people who are treated in this manner be supposed to be under the Protection of the King of Gr. Brittain? or can they be supposed to be treated like friends or like rational or human creatures? It is but too obvious what the consequences of this Treatment must be

As the Govern^{mt} have no funds for paying Sallaries to those who have the care of the Indian affairs they are generally left to the Discretion of the Traders with the Indian who pretend to act without & as they are divided into one set, who trade to Canada, & another who Trade at Oswego or directly with the Indians, these two sets are influencing the Indians in opposition to each other in order to defeat the measures which the other takes The several Colonies likewise have different & Separate Interests, which they severally regard more than the common interest of the whole. Thus Massachusetts bay are at this time endeavouring to draw the Mohawks to settle on their Frontiers, for their security, & the People of Pennsylvania are endeavouring to draw them to the Frontiers of Pennsylvania, & none of them will unite in furnishing a common stock for the wellfair of the whole.

The Assembly, since the year –46, have neglected to give the usual annual supplies for the expense attending the managem^{t} of the Indian affairs, till this last year, when they gave a sum for presents to the Indians, & that only after the repeated accounts received of the dissatisfaction the Indians had expressed, of their being totally neglected, since the conclusion of the Peace. But surely no great matters can be expected, from what can be done in eight or ten days time at such interviews with the Governor when at all other times they are neglected. Thus it appears, that the Government of New York was

entirely disabled from taking the usual or any care of the Indian affairs, from the conclusion of the Peace to the spring of the year -51, by the assemblies refusing to grant the usual suplies for that Service, & by their distressing Col Johnson with whom those affairs were intrusted

The Govr, in the conduct of the Indian affairs, is under a double disadvantage. The Assembly will grant His supply, for the usual expense of Commiss^{rs} for that Service, unless the Creatures of the Factions be apointed, & who by their past conduct appear no way proper to be intrusted: & on the other hand Coll Johnson by the large sums allowed him for that Service in time of War, & by something in his natural temper suited to the Indian humour, has gained such an ascendency over them, that they insist on his continueing & will be dissatisfied with any other apointment, as fully appears by the minutes of what passed at Albany in the last meeting with the Indians. Both seem to have its view in opposition to each other to make it impracticable to carry on the Indian affairs unless the one be seperately employed exclusive of the other, & thereby the Gov^{t} is disabled to employ either or any other.

I shall next observe on what has been don by the French in Canada in the same time. Tho the gaining the Indians, the preserving them in their fidelity, the keeping them in readiness to join our Forces on the expedition intended against Canada, & the sending out parties of Indians against Canada, was attended with a greater expence, than had ever been incurred on the like Service before. Yet we were assured by the French officers, who came from Canada after the Peace on the Exchange of Prisoners, that the Govt of Canada was at a much greater expence on account of the Indians they employed than we were. Every Indian employed by them occasioned an expence they said, that could not be Credited The power of the Brittish Colonies is so much superior to that of the French, that they could have no hopes of coping with us, in any regular attack with reg-

ular troops or militia; & consequently had no other method of making war but by numerous of their Indians, & which they were therefor under a necessity of procuring at any rate.

The same reasons lay them under a necessity of endeavouring by all means to enlarge & spread their influence among the numerous nations on the Great Continent: and as they could not fail of being assured of the Difficulty the administration in this Gov^{t} laboured under they thought it the most proper time to redouble their endeavours; believing that no time could be more proper for an extraordinary expence than this, in order to carry their purposes

With these desires they from time to time sent some of the Caknuaga Indians among the six Nations, to excite them to make incursions on the Southern Indians, in Amity with South Carolina with whom the Six Nations & Caknuagas had both been at War beyond the memory of any man living: thereby to weaken the Indians who depended on the English Colonies & are faithfull to them by setting them on to destroy one another

The Messisagues an Indian Nation who formerly lived to the Northward of the lake Huron & traded with the French, joined with the six Nations in declaring war against Canada. After the Peace, the Govr of Canada resolved to make this Nation sensible of his resentment, & incited the Utawawas to join him in making War on the Messisagues, this obliged them to leave their Country & come to settle near the Senekas on the East side of Lake Erie & as the Messisagues have received no support or protection from the English any other nation must be deferred from following the example of the Messisagues in joining hereafter with the English. A Considerable Number of Indians Originally of several nations formerly living near Hudson's river, Delaware & Susquehana & several of the six Nations settled near the head of Branch of the Mississipi, called Ohio by the French, & Allegheny by the People of Pensylvania, & with whom a considerable trade is carried on from Pen-

sylvania, & they are in hopes of bringing the Twightures a considerable nation on the same branch more westerly, to join with them & the six Nations in Confederacy. In order to defeat this Union, the Govr of Canada sent a body of regular troops with a number of Indians to draw of these Indians from the English Interest, by force if it could not be otherwise don. But when the French came they found themselves too weak to attempt any thing by force, & were only able to disturb the English trade, by sending in some of their Indians to surprise the English traders, as they were upon their Journey. Which at several times the French Indians did, & carried the traders to the French Fort at Oniagara, where they were detained prisoners & used with more severity than is used between civilized nations to prisoners in time of War. This is certainly in direct violation of the 19th article in the Treaty of Utrecht, by which a free trade with the Indians is expressly stipulated. But it was don with design to deter the English from any attempts, for the future, to trade with these Nations. If care be not taken to prevent the like again otherwise than by complaints to the Govr of Canada or Court of France they will at last effectually put an end to that Trade

The French have priests among the several nations in Amity with them as well as smiths & Traders who by presents with which they are furnished out of their Kings stores & by other artifices endeavour to gain the affections of the Indians, & infuse prejudices to the English. The French missions are often among the Six Nations & some of them trade among them tho' they have not been able to settle any priests any where in the villages of the Six Nations Most of these priests are for the most part engaged at a cheap & easy rate by a spirit of enthusiasm, & others by the hopes of preferment. One lately tried to have admission at Onondaga, but he could not obtain it. This man is now settled on Cadaracknie river, near where it comes from the lake of the same name, His residence being near the five nations, & not far from Oswego, he has all means to draw the Indians

to him, & to gain their affections, by distributing large presents among them, & by other artifices: for which purpose he is not only liberally suplied from the Kings stores, but, it is said, that he is a person of consid rable estate, which he converts to the same use, on the promise he has of a Bishoprick after some certain time of service among the Indians

The great advantage the English have over the French is there being able to furnish the Indians with goods at a cheaper rate than the French can, to remove this disadvantage, as much as possible the French officer at Oniagara has orders, to sell goods as cheap or cheaper, than is don at Oswego, tho' it should be don with the loss of 30,000 livres a year, which he is promised shall be recompensed out of the Kings Stores or from the Treasury The Indians, who trade at Oswego generally pass by Oniagara. The french hope that if they can once persuade the Indians that they sell as cheap or cheaper than the English, the grand objection which the Indians make to them erecting fortified trading houses, will be removed. & if they can once be well secured by fortifications, at all the passes between the lakes, they can then speak in a different tone to the Indians: & by force prevent their going to Trade any where but with them. The French have already a Fort, & a settlement of French Farmers sufficient to supply themselves with Provisions, at a place Called Detroit between Lake Erie & the Lake of the Hurons. But the five Nations would never suffer any Fortification, at the streights between Lake Erie & Cadaracknic Lake, till since Queen Annes War the French obtained leave to build a store house, to save their goods in transportation over the pass between the lakes which they insensibly fortified. But now they are attempting a Fortification of a different kind, which, if they can accomplish & finish as it is projected will be of great consequence, not only as it will keep the Six Nations at all times in awe, but likewise intercept all the Indians to the Westward of it & where the great bever hunting, is in their way to trade with the English Be-

sides these Forts, the French keep a small armed Sloop on Cadarackni lake, which may be of great consequence in preventing trade with Oswego. The Six Nations in general are very sensible how much their Liberty will be affected by these forts, & are much displeased with them, tho the French by presents & other artifices gain some particular Indians to favour their designs. The Indians would gladly prevent the building of these forts but they have such an opinion of the French power & good Policy that they dare not attempt anything of themselves by force, while they can not depend on being effectually supported by the English, which our Conduct of late has given them too good reason to doubt of.

The English only complain, & expostulate with the Govr of Canada or the Court of France. The French give amusing or evasive answers, but still go on in their works, & in pursueing their grand design: till they shall have brought their work to such perfection, that they can without fear avow their Intention.

The grand advantage the French have is, that their affairs among the Indians are all directed by one Council, & no expence is thought too great, which is necessary for their purposes at the same time it is certainly true that they do perform the same service at half the expence the English do I shall now humbly submit my opinion, of what may be proper to be don in order to secure the fidelity of the Indian Nations allready in Amity with the English Colonies, to promote our Interest & Trade among them & all the other nations in North America, & defeat the Designs of the French to our prejudice For these purposes, It seems in the first place necessary to take off all Duties & imports from the goods used in the Indian trade. For since the principal advantage the English have over the French is, in their being able to furnish the Indians with goods at a cheaper rate, the laying duties on Indian goods is in a great measure giving up that advantage. Besides by the artifices used in collecting these duties, the Trade is much hampered, & the

fair trader discouraged, & the knavish part of the Traders get an advantage of the honest.

Next, Some law aught to be passed, whereby the Indians, on their Complaints, may get justice don them speedily, by summary process. And that, in all dealings between Indians & Christians, Indian evidence be allowed They, who are acquainted with the Indians & the Indian traders, I am confident, will allow that the Indians have the telling a lye in evidence as much in abhorrence, as the traders have the swearing a falsehood.

After long observation of the conduct of Indian affairs I am of opinion, that they can be only well managed by one Single person of sufficient ability as superintendent of Indian affairs who shall not be allowed to trade in any shape, directly or indirectly. For all the abuses & negligencies in the management of these affairs have arisen, from the private views the Commiss^{rs} of Indian have had, to promote their own trade, & to lay the other traders under difficulties & disadvantages. This of the trade raises perpetual Jealousies among the people employed in it & likewise with our neighbouring Colonies & brings the Commiss^{rs} into Contempt among the Indians many instances of which can be given, & are well known to all who have any knowledge of the Indian affairs. If the Frauds & abuses in Trade be not effectually prevented, it will be impossible otherwise to preserve the affections of the Indians These abuses can no way be prevented but by apointing some single person of sufficient ability, & with authority to redress the Injuries which the Indians receive, & to prevent their receiving the like for the future. & that he have an allowance, sufficient to encourage a gentleman fitly qualified for these purposes.

That he be enabled to send Smiths to reside among the Indians, men of the best probity & sense that can be found for that purpose: & to send other Messengers, both Indians & Christians to the distant nations upon any emergency, & as occasion shall require

No doubt it will be of great use to have missionary

preachers setled, in as many places, as their can be requisite funds found for their subsistence. It is hoped the Societies in England, for propogating the Gospel & Christian knowledge in foreign parts, will contribute to the utmost of their ability. In this case, much will depend on the choice of the persons & they must be subject to the direction of the superintendant of Indian affairs, & correspond constantly with him

The Superintendant ought constantly to correspond with the Board of Trade, & with all the Governors on the Continent of North America, to give & receive intelligence & advice. So far I think it necessary, & perhaps may be sufficient, to promote our Interest & Trade among the Indians, if the Designs & Enterprises of the French were not at the same hour to be guarded against. For this purpose I am of opinion, the building a sloop of force at Oswego, in order to cruise the whole summer on Cadarackni Lake, would be of great use because all the Indians & Traders, who go or come from the Indian Nations to the Westward, & all the Fur Trade passes through this lake This vessel may carry goods to several parts round this lake at stated times at which times the Indians living round the lake and at a distance from it may come by apointment advice to purchase those goods at the cheapest rates She ought to be of such force, as not to be under any apprehensions from the small sloop, which the French have on the same lake. This I hinted to Mr. Clark several years since, & I was told that he proposed it to the board of Trade, & I have since often heard your Excell^{y} mention it, as a thing you thought would be of great use

Next to make a settlement & some kind of Fortification at Frontegnat which is in Cadarackni lake about half way between Oswego & Oniagara where the French are now building their Fort. This has likewise been long in thought, as the land there is very good, & fit for a settlement, & has been purchased of the Indians for that purpose. The uses of this Fort & settlement are 1st, That is is the pass from Canada to the Senekas Country.

2d That in case the French obstructed the passage at Oniagara, the Indiáns, by making a circuit within land, could come to this place to Trade 3, It may be very convenient on many occasions as a harbour for the sloop proposed to built on the lake, 4 If we do not take possession of it, the French will, which they have again & again attempted. & Lastly in case of war it will be of great use for securing the Fidelity of the Senekas & Cayugas & neighbouring Indians & a necessary step if any design should be formed against the French Fort at Oniagara. The sloops being first built would much facilitate the setlement at Frondegnat. These things are all that I think necessary & practicable at this time. It remains only to show, how a fund may be found, for the necessary expence attending these services proposed to be don.

This I think may be don, by a Duty on all wines & spirits, imported into or made in any of the Colonies of North America, & I am persuaded it will be sufficient for all the purposes before proposed, if the same be duly collected. It can be no prejudice to Trade, as it is general on all the Colonies whereas now, a Duty is laid on Spirits in some of the Colonies, while others are free, which lays the one under a disadvantage on their Trades from which the others are free: but in this case, all being equal it must fall on the consumers on whom it cannot be a hardship or if they think it hard may forbear the use of these liquors. So far as I can apprehend, it can be no disadvantage to trade, except on one instance, that is, on the exportation of Spirits from North America to the coast of Africa; for purchasing of Slaves; in which case, if thought necessary, the Duty may be drawn back. 40 Sh on every pipe of wine & three pence Sterl. on every Gall° of Spirits may be sufficient. See from the Custom house books of New York the Quantity of Spirit & number of pipes imported in a year. It is true, that Spirits make considerable part of the trade with the Indians, but if it be considered that there is now a duty of one shilling a Gallon on all Rum, sold at Oswego or to our Indians to the Westward of Albany, for the support of

the Garrison at Oswego, & notwithstanding of this we can undersell the French in this article It may be presumed, that the Duty of three pence ℔ Gallon cannot hurt the Trade with the Indians, more especially when this Trade is to be freed, from all other imports, & the Traders from many difficulties they now labour under As this Duty is proposed to be general over all the Colonies it must be imposed by Act of Parliament; because it would be a most vain imagination to expect, that all the Colonies would severally agree to impose it.

Now S^{r}, I have as far as I am capable, given your Excell^{y} the present state of affairs between the English & French Colonies & the Indians & of what I think at this time necessary to secure their fidelity, promote the Brittish Trade & defeat the Interprises of the French to our prejudice. One thing remaining farther to be considered is, to secure our frontiers from the Incursions of the French Indians, in case of any future War. If what I have allready proposed be effectually put in creation, it will in a great measure secure the Colonies from such like attempts; because in such case the French will have too much to fear, wantonly to provoke us, by the invasions of the few Indians, that in such case will be under their direction. But notwithstanding of this, it would be imprudent not to take what care we can against these Dangers, & the time of peace is the only proper time to do it. In time of War we shall have too many things on our hands, & a great expence otherwise unavoidable. We may learn from our natural Ennemies the French of Canada, what is proper to be don. As soon as a peace is concluded, they begin to take all the proper precaution for their security against a Succeeding War.

The french fort at Crown point is of little consequence as to trade, only so far, that it puts it in the power of the French to incourage or stop the Trade between Albany & Canada, at their pleasure, as they shall, under any change of circumstances, think it most for their benefite. But, as I think, it would be most for the Brittish interest to have that trade entirely stopt. I am under no concern

for what difficulties it may be laid under. Perhaps this Trade alone secures the Caknuagas in the French Interest, by the particular benefite they reap, by being the common carriers between the Dutch at Albany & the French. If they were deprived of this benefite, they would find it for their Interest to return to the five Nations, from whom they are originally deserters & speak the same language. However this may be, it is certainly necessary to build one or more Forts, near the carrying place between Hudsons river & the Wood Creek, in the way from Albany to Canada: as by this pass, the French Indians make their Incursions, in time of War on New York & New Engiand. The Principal use of the French Fort, St Frederic, on Crown point, at the South end Lake Champlain, is to defend Canada against Invasions from New York or New England, & to make incursions from thence on these Provinces, & therefor it becomes necessary to have one or more forts at this pass, to prevent these incursions, & which may likewise prevent any commerce with Canada, which hereafter may be thought prejudicial to the safety or Interest of the Brittish Colonies. As these Forts will be a security to all the Northern Colonies, the expence of building & supporting them ought to be a general charge on all. The Frontier Province must unavoidably suffer many inconveniences, in time of War. especially, from which the others are freed, & from which they are freed by these being frontiers to them, & therefore it is highly reasonable that the others should contribute to the charge of the defence of them. And the others being at a Distance from the Frontiers makes them more able to bear the charge. But from what has been perpetually observed on this head in all times passed it is not to be hoped that the other Colonies will contribute to this charge in such proportion as they aught if they do it in proportion otherwise than by being compelled to it by some superior authority

This memorial has run out into a much greater length than I intended or expected it would but as I believe that your Excellency may design it for the use of those

who may otherwise have little or no knowledge of the Indian affairs I thought it necessary to give a circumstantial account of them which however is humbly submitted to your Excellency's correction Judgement & Experience in those affairs by S^{r}

Your Excellency^{s}

New York
Aug 8th 1751 Most obedient & most humble servant

From John Rutherfurd

LONDON August 16, 1751

Sir

Nothing is yet determined thats made at least anent New York affairs else should have acquainted you of it. The Council have late, made A Report to His Majesty of some things & referred others to the Board of Trade. Chief Justice Morris had A Commission made out for being Lt Govr haveing been recommended failing of you by Govr Clintown. The Ministry had received bad impressions of you which I don't doubt but the Govr will wipe off on his Arrival & possibly I might ere now had I seen The Duke of Argyle but he went for Scotland as I arrived here & I've seen none of the Gov^{rs} friends. I gave your Manuscript to Mr Collinson & 'twill be printed immediately he told me of your application for Post Master General & we were sorry you had been too late, Dr Mitchel 'tis thought will be appointed, I sent him your letter by my Servant but have not Seen him. I hope this will find you in quiet possession of the Government & long to hear how all goes that I may give you your Titles in my Next. I'm in a good deal of hurry now goeing to Scotland tomorrow so must Conclude with our best respects to you Your Lady & Family I am

Dear Sir

Your most obed^{t} and most humble Servant

JOHN RUTHERFURD

to pardon them all their past faults, and I would still open my arms to receive them. You of the Lake and you Otasais, pay attention to what I have just said, and on your side, use all your efforts to recall all your people back to your village; I recommend you to do so, and require it of your friendship for me.

8.

Mékinac could not too earnestly recommend you to obey Mr. de la Galissonnière's message, and not to allow yourselves to be spoken of in connection with bad business.

9.

The answer you gave Mékinac pleases me, and you surprise me by saying that he has meddled with bad business; I shall not fail to reproach him with it.

I see that he has been at Chouaguen like many others; Rum draws you all to that place; you have no idea, children, how pernicious that liquor is to you. The English employ it to spoil your heart and senses, and you must, moreover, have perceived that such liquor injures your health. How many of your brethren has it not killed.

We, Pierre Rigaud, Marquis de Vaudreuil, Commander of the Royal and Military Order of St. Louis, Governor and Lieutenant-General for the King throughout all New France, the territories and countries of Louisiana.

Certify the present copy to be conformable to the original remaining the office of our Secretary. In testimony whereof, we have signed these presents, caused the same to be sealed with the seal of our Arms, and to be countersigned by our Secretary.

Done at Montreal, the 15th of February, 1758.

(Signed), VAUDREUIL.

By my Lord

(Signed), SAINT SAUVEUR.

MARQUIS DE LA JONQUIERE TO GOVERNOR CLINTON.

[TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.]

MONTREAL, *10th August, 1751.*

SIR: I did not receive, until the 3rd of this month, the despatch your Excellency did me the honor to write to me by Mr Cornelius Cuyler on the 12th of June last.

You cannot complain, Sir, of the post I have caused to be erected at the foot of the Niagara carrying place, much less pretend that

it is an usurpation on the lands of the subjects of the King, your Master.

Your Excellency might as well have said that I have invaded the territories of the King of Great Britain, for if it were true that the Iroquois of the Five Nations are his subjects, their lands would incontestably belong to his Britannic Majesty.

This, nevertheless, Sir, is the foundation you have wished to give to your complaint.

My answer will convince you that it has no solidity.

You, very unadvisedly, and in opposition to your own understanding, call the Five Nations subjects of the King, your Master. They are no such thing, and you would be very careful not to put forth such a pretension in their presence. You treat them with much more circumspection; and it is yet to be established *(a naître)* that they have regarded the English in any other light than as their brothers. This is an evident proof that so far from acknowledging them as their Masters, they declare themselves, on the contrary, in every respect, independent of them; and they even do not conceal that the English hold directly from them the posts they have in their territory, and that they will oblige them to surrender these whenever they shall think proper.

If the Five Nations were to subject themselves to any Crown, they could not help acknowledging the dominion of the King, my Master, and their neutral inclination would lead them to do so.

In fact, Sir, you are not ignorant, and ancient and modern history bear testimony, that the French are the first white men that appeared on the territory of the Five Nations. It is with them that they first formed an alliance of friendship. It is from them they have received their first assistance; accordingly from that very moment did they call the French their Father.

It is unquestionable, then, that the French were the first to penetrate into the territories of the Iroquois; from that very moment they have taken possession of it, and this possession has been uninterrupted.

Now, were these lands susceptible of any dispute between the Kings, our Masters, and the question had been discussed at the time of the Treaty of Utrecht and Aix la Chapelle, it could not, in fair justice, but be decided in favor of France.

But the Iroquois wish to be the sole masters of their lands; they cease not to say that it is God who gave them to them, and that they acknowledged him alone for Master and Sovereign. This they have signified by authentic documents to the English and to the French.

I add, that the French, after having conquered their lands in the wars they had with them, gave those back to them and restored them to their rights by solemn treaties.

From all which it must be concluded that your Excellency has had no authority to object against the post I have caused to be established. It has been erected with the perfect knowledge of the Iroquois of the Five Nations, who alone are competent to complain of it. They did not oppose it; they consented to it, and have acknowledge that it would contribute as much to their advantage as to that of the French. It is only a house of refuge *(hospice)*, an entrepot of provisions, and a halting place for French voyageurs from the upper country.

I never should have thought that you would have claimed the four Englishmen who have been arrested, inasmuch as they have stated that they had a license from the Governor of Philadelphia, and none of them having exhibited it to me, they are considered as vagabonds and bush rangers.

But as your Excellency takes their part, and as nothing less than that is necessary to persuade me that you authorize and approve their conduct, I will consent to explain the reasons which caused their capture.

You are not ignorant, Sir, of the expedition Mr de Celoron made in the year 1749 to the Beautiful River by order of the Marquis de la Galissonnière; that he renewed for, and in the name of the King, my Master, the possession which his Majesty always held of those lands; that he summoned all the English traders there at the time to retire; that he wrote to the Governor of Philadelphia to inform him that he had fulfilled his mission, and to warn him that if any English traders should thereafter again make their appearance on the Beautiful River, they would be treated without any delicacy.

I had the honor to write you myself on the 7th of March, 1750, on that subject, and to request your Excellency to issue an order forbidding all the subjects of New England to go and trade on the territory of the King, my Master. In the same letter I had the honor to express to you my just sensibility at all the secret movements of the English to induce the Indians, who, from all time, have been our closest allies, to destroy the French.

Although you did not honor me with any answer, I flattered myself, notwithstanding, that you would adopt strict measures to arrest the course of all these seductions, and maintain, on your side, the union that ought to subsist between us. But the result has undeceived me. The English, far from confining themselves within the limits of the King of Great Britain's possessions, not satisfied with multiplying themselves more and more on Rock river *(Riviere a la Roche)*, with having houses and open stores there, have, more than that, proceeded, within sight of Detroit, even unto the fort of the Miamis.

This proceeding, following so many unneighborly acts, the evil consequences whereof we but too sensibly feel, have placed M^r^ de

Celeron, the commandant at Detroit, under the necessity of ordering these Englishmen to be arrested.

Three of them were first arrested at Ayonontout, the place selected in 1747, by Nicolas, the Rebel Huron Chief, as his stronghold, near the little lake of Otsanderket that is to say within ten leagues of the town of Detroit. The names of these three Englishmen are Luke Arowin, an Irishman by birth, an inhabitant of Pensilvania, Joseph Fortiner, an inhabitant of the town of Gergé, and Thomas Broke, an inhabitant of Linguester. Lastly the fourth Englishman, named John Pathin, an inhabitant of Willenstown, has been arrested in the French fort of the Miamis, by M. de Villiers, commandant of that post.

The capture of these four English ought not surprize you: 'tis certain, Sir, that they did not risk coming to say, under his M. C. Majesty's cannon, except with sinister views.

Here is proof of it.

1st None of these Englishmen were ignorant of M. de Celoron's interdiction to the English traders in 1749; that interdiction is public throughout every place in New England, and consequently they are in the wrong when they do not confine themselves there.

2d It cannot be said that they were at Ayonontout to trade with the Indians, because they had nothing but presents to distribute among them.

3d It is so evident that they wish to hold a Council with the Indians in every respect fatal to the French, that they encamped in a place selected by Nicolas, a Huron chief, a rebel to the French, for his stronghold; they doubtless wished to persuade the Indians to entertain the same feelings as Nicolas, and to attach the most influential to them, in order to resuscitate that chief, who is dead, and to put in execution his nefarious project.

4th What is remarkable and conclusive is, that the leader of these three Englishmen, Luke Arrowin by name, speakes all the Indian languages, is accustomed to the Upper Countries, and is very capable of making them subscribe to whatever he wishes.

This is so complete a proof, that it is unaswerable. As for John Pathin, he entered the fort of the Miamis to persuade the Indians who remained there, to unite with those who have fled to the Beautiful river. He has been taken it the French fort. Nothing more is necessary.

The little property that was taken belonging to these prisoners, has been claimed by the Indians as plunder. They have not been ill treated. Mr. Cuyler saw three of them in this town, who have their liberty, and want nothing. John Pathin could enjoy the same freedom, but he is so mutinous, and uttered so many threats, that I have been obliged to imprison him at Quebec.

You perceive, Sir, that the English traders observe no longer any

discretion, that nothing can restrain them, and that they are redoubling their efforts to excite the Indian Nations against the French. 'Tis time to correct this, and you cannot do it too promptly.

If any Frenchman was wicked enough to do any thing perjudical to the English, I would have him punished most severely, and if any are so venturesome as to go on the King if Great Brittain's lands, I disavow them from this moment, and consent that you secure their persons.

Mr. Cuyler will have the honor to report to you all the regard I have had for him, and that I granted him my authority for all the business he had to transact in this Colony, although the French have nothing directly or indirectly to do with it.

He will be able also to tell you how sincerely I desire to reëstablish the most perfect intelligence between the subjects of our Governments; to this I shall direct all my attention, and as soon as your Excellency will unite your efforts to mine, we shall have no difficulty in succeeding.

I must not conceal from you, Sir, that your Deputy, Mr. Cuyler, has brought hither with him his brother, Mr. John Cuyler, who is not mentioned in his pasport. It has been reported to me that this John Cuyler, who is a merchant, was trading with the French, and even with the Indians, and was constantly conferring with them in the house in which he lodged in this town, all which is highly improper.

I have the honor to advise your Excellency, that I issue my orders to have all the English sent back to New England, who will come to this Colony unprovided with a passport from their governor.

I shall await impatiently your answer.

I have the honor to be respectfully,

Sir,

Your most humble

and most obedient servant,

LA JONQUIERE.

A Montreal le 10 Aoust 1751

Monsieur

La Lettre que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'ecrire, par Mr Cornelius Cuyler, le 12 Juin dernier, ne m'est parvenue que le 3 de ce Mois.
Vous ne pouvez pas vous plaindre, Monsieur, de l'établissem^t que j'ay fais faire au bas du Portage de Niagara, moins encore pouvez vous prelendre que c'est une Usurpation sur les Terres des Sujets du Roy vôtre Maitre.

Autant auroit il valu que votre Excellence eut dit, que j'ay anticipé sur les Terres du Roy de la Grande Bretagne; car s'il etoit vray que les Iroquois des Cinq Nations fussent ses Sujets, leurs Terres appartiendroient incontestablem^t a S.M.B.

Voila, cependant, Monsieur, le Fondement que vous avez voulu donner à votre plainte, ma Reponse va vous convaincre qu'il n'est pas Solide:

C'est très mal a propos, et contre vos propre Lumieres, que vous qualifiez les Cinq Nations de Sujets du Roy votre Maitre. ils ne l'ont jamais été, & vous n'auriez garde de former une semblable Prétention vis-a-vis d'Eux, vous les traittez avec beaucoup plus de menagement, & il est a naitre qu'ils ayent regardés les Anglois autrement que comme leur Frères; ce qui est une preuve sensible, que bien loing de les reconnoitre pour leurs Maitres, ils s'en declarent au Contraire a tous Egards independants, et même ne dissimulent ils pas, que les Anglois dependent directement d'Eux, pour les Etablissements qu'ils ont sur leurs Terres, & qu'ils les en feront deguerpir, lors qu'ils trouveront a propos.

Si les Cinq Nations devoient s'assujetir a quelque Couronne; ils ne pouroient point se dispenser de reconnoitre la Domination du Roy mon Maitre, & leur Inclination naturelle les y porteroit

En effet, Monsieur, vous n'ignorez pas, et les Histoires anciennes & modernes en font Foy, que les François sont les premiers Blancs qui ayent paru sur les Terres des Cinq Nations, C'est avec eux qu'ils se sont d'abord liez d'amitié; C'est d'eux qu'ils ont reçû leurs premiers Secours. Aussi dés ce Moment ont ils nommé le François leurs Pére.

Il est donc constant, que les François ayant les premiers penetré dans les Terres des Iroquois, ils en ont dés ce Moment pris poſeſſion, et cette poſeſſion n'a point été interrompüe.

Or si ces Terres etoïent susceptibles de Contestation, entres les Rois nos Maitres, et que la question eut été agitée lors des Traités d'Utrect, & d'Aix la Chapelle, elle n'auroit pu en bonne Justice qu'etre decidée en faveur de La France.

Mais les Iroquois veulent seuls être les Maitres de leurs Terres, ils ne ceſsent de dire que c'est Dieu qui les leur a donné, et qu'ils ne reconnoiſsent que luy seul pour Maitre, et Souverain, cest ce qu'ils ont signifié par des Actes Authentiques, aux Anglois et aux François.

J'ajoute que dans les Guerres que les François ont eu avec eux, après avoir conquis leurs Terres, ils les leur ont rendû, et les ont remis dans leurs Droits, par des Traittes Solemnels.

De tout cela il faut conclure, que rien na pû authoriser vôtre Excellence a se venir de l'Etablisement que jay fait faire; il a été fait au vû et scû des Iroquois des Cinq Nations, seuls Competants pour s'en plaindre. Ils ne s'y sont point opposé; ils y ont consenty, & ont reconnu qu'il contribuoit autant à leur bien, qu'au celui des François, ce n'est qu'un Hospice, un entrepost de vivre, et un refuge pour les Voyageurs françois des Pays d'Enhaut

Je naurois jamais pensé que vous eussiez reclamé les Quatres Anglois qui ont été arrêtés, attendu qu'ils ont dit avoir une Permiſsion du Gouverneur de Philadelphie, & qu'aucun d'Eux ne me l'ayant exibée, ils sont censés Gens sans aveu, et Coureurs de Bois.

Mais comme votre Excellence prend leur Fait et Cause; et qu'il

et qu'il ne faut rien moins que cela, pour me persuader qu'elle authorize, & approuve leur Conduitte, je veux bien entrer dans les Raisons qui ont donné lieu à leur Capture.

Vous n'ignorez pas Monsieur, la Campagne que Mr de Celoron fit en l'Année 1749 à la Belle Riviere, par ordre de Mr le Marquis de la Galissonniere, qu'il renouvella pour, et au Nom, du Roy mon Maitre, la Possession ou sa Majesté a toujours été, de ces Terres, qu'il somma tous les Traitteurs Anglois, qui y étoient, de se retirer; Quil envoit à Mr le Gouverneur de Philadelphie pour l'informer, qu'il avoit rempli sa Mission & le prevenir, que si dans les suittes il reparoissoit des Traitteurs anglois, dans les Belles Rivieres, ils seroient traittés sans aucun Menagement

J'eus l'honneur de vous écrire, moymeme, le 7 Mars 1750 a cette Occasion, & de prier votre Excellence, de rendre une Ordonnance, pour deffendre a tous les Sujets de la Nouvelle Angleterre d'aller traitter sur les Terres du Roy mon Maitre:

Par la meme Lettre j'eus aussi l'honneur de vous temoigner, ma juste sensibilité, a tous les Mouvements Secrets que les Anglois faisoient, pour induire les Sauvages, qui de tous Tems nous ont été le plus etroitement attachés, à la Destruction des François.

Quoique vous ne m'ayez honoré d'aucune Reponse, neanmoins je me flattois que vous prendriez des justes Mesures pour arrêter le Cours de toutes ces Seductions, et maintenir de votre Coté l'union qui doit regner entre nous.

Mais les Juittes m'ont detrompé, les Anglois bien loin de se renfermer dans les Bornes des Possessions du Roy de la Grande Bretagne, non contents de se multiplier de plus en plus dans la Riviere à la Roche, d'y avoir des Maisons, & Magazin ouverts, ils ont encore porté leurs Pas jusqu'a la vuë du Detroit, même dans le Fort des Miamis.

Ce procedé succedant a tant de mauvais Propos, dont nous n'eprouvons que trop, les suittes facheuses, ont mis Mr de Celoron, Commendant au Detroit; dans la necessité de

faire arreter

arretter ces Anglois.

Il en a dabord été arreté trois, à Ayonoutout, lieu que Nicolas chef Iluron Rebele avoit choisi, pour s'y fortifier, en 1747. pres du Lac d'Orsonderket, c'est à dire a dix Lieux de la Ville du Detroit. Ces trois Anglois se nomment Luke Arrowin, Irlandois de Nation, habitant de Pensylvanie. Joseph Fortinier habitant de la Ville de Gergé & Thomas Borke Habitant de Linquester.

Enfin le Quatrieme Anglois nommé Jean Baltein habitant de Willenstown, a été arreté dans le Fort, francois, des Miamis par Mr. Villiers Commendant dans le dit Poste.

La Capture de ces quatres Anglois ne doit point vous surprendre il est certain, Monsieur, qu'ils ne se sont hazardés a venir, s'il faut ainsy dire, sous le Canon de sa Majesté T.C. que dans des vües pernicieuses

En voicy la Preuve.

1°. Aucun de ces Anglois n'ignoroit les Deffenses que Mr de Celeron fit aux Traitteurs Anglois en 1749. Ces Deffenses sont Publiques dans tous les Lieux de la Nouvelle Angleterre, et par consequent, ils sont dans leur tort, des qu'ils ne s'y sont pas renfermés.

2°. On ne peut pas dire, qu'ils fussent a Ayonoutout pour faire leur Traitte, avec les Sauvages, parce qu'ils n'etoient munis que de Presents pour leur distribuer.

3°. Il est si evident qu'ils vouloient tenir un Conseil avec les Sauvages, a tous egards, funest aux François, qu'ils ont Campé dans un lieu que Nicolas Chef Iluron rebele aux François avoit choisi pour s'y fortifier, il vouloient sans doute porter les Sauvages a avoir les mêmes Sentiments que Nicolas, & s'attacher le plus accredité, pour faire revivre ce Chef, qui est mort & faire executer son inique Projet.

4°. Ce qu'il y a de remarquable, & de decisif, c'est que le Chef de ces trois Anglois, nommé Luke Arrowin, parle toutes les Langues Sauvages est habitue dans les Pays d'en haut, & est tres Capable de les faire souvenir, a ce qu'il souhaite.

Cette Preuve est si parfaitte, qu'elle est sans Replique.

Quant

Quant a Jean Bathin, il etoit allé dans le Fort des Miamis, pour determiner les Sauvage qui y ont resté a se joindre a ceux qui se sont refugiés a la Belle Riviere: Il a été pris dans le Fort François, Il n'en faut pas d'avantage.

Le peu d'Effets qui ont été saisis à ces Prisonniers, ont été reclamés par les Sauvages, a Titre de Pillage.

Ils n'ont point été maltraittés, Mr Cuyler en a vû trois en cette Ville, qui sont libres, & qui ne manquent de rien.

Il n'a tenu qu'a Jean Bathin de jouir de la meme Liberté, mais il est si Mutin, & a fait tant de Menaces, que j'ay été obligé de le faire mettre en Prison a Quebec.

Vous voyez, Monsieur, que les Traitteurs Anglois n'ont plus aucun Menagement, que rien n'est capable de les contenir; et qu'ils redoublent leurs Efforts pour soulever les Nations Sauvages contres les Francois. Il est Temps d'y remedier, & vous ne sauriez le faire assez promptement.

Si aucun François etoit assez malin pour faire la moindre Chose qui fut prejudiciable aux Anglois, Je luy feroit subir le plus severe Chatiment, & s'il s'en trouvoit d'assez entreprenant pour aller sur les Terres du Roy de la Grande Bretagne, Je les desavoüe des apresent, et consens que vous vous assuriez de leur Personne.

Mr Cuyler aura l'honneur de vous rendre conte de tous les égards que j'ay eu pour luy, & que je luy ay accordé mon Authorité pour toutes les Affaires qu'il a eu a terminer dans cette Colonie, quoyque les Francois n'y ayent aucune Part, directement ni indirectement.

Il pourra vous dire combien je desire sincerement de retablir l'intelligence, la plus parfaitte, entre les Sujets de nos Gouvernem.; c'est a quoy je m'attacherai toujours, & dés que votre Excellence joindra ses Soins aux miens, nous n'aurons pas de peine a y reussir.

Je ne dois pas vous cacher Monsieur, que le Sr Cuyler, votre Deputé, a amené icy avec luy, le Sr John Cuyler son frere, duquel il n'est point fait mention dans son Passport;

Il

Il m'a été raporté que le dit Jean Cuyler, qui est un Commercant, traittoit d'affair de Commerce avec les Francois, meme avec les Sauvages, & qu'il etoit toujours en Conference avec eux; dans la Chaison ou il a este logé en cette Ville; ce qui ne convient nullement.

J'ay l'honneur de prevenir votre Excellence, que je donne mes Ordre pour qu'on renvoye dans la Nouvelle Angleterre, tous les Anglois qui viendront dans cette Colonie, sans avoir un Passeport de leur Gouverneur.

J'attendray avec impatience votre Reponse

Jay l'honneur d'etre avec Respect

Monsieur

Votre tres humble & tres
Obeissant Serviteur
Lajonquiere

Mr Clinton Gouv: de New-York

A True Copy
G Clinton

Sir,

Montreal the 10th August 1751.

The Letter which your Excellency honoured me with, by Mr. Cornelius Cuyler the 24th. Last June, did not come to my hands till the 3d. of this Instant.

The Settlement which I have caused to be made at the bottom of the Portage of Niagara, cannot give you any occasion of Complaint; you have yet less reason so to do, under pretence, that the making that Settlement, is an usurpation upon the King your Master's Territorys.

Your Excellency might as well have said, that I have encroached upon Lands belonging to the King of Great Britain, for if it is true, that the Iroquois, of the five Nations are his Subjects, in consequence their Lands would indisputably belong to G. B. &c.

This is nevertheless the foundation upon which you have grounded your Complaint My answer will convince you that it has no solid foundation.

It is very improperly, and in contradiction to your own knowledge, that you call the five Nations, Subjects of the King your Master, they never were so, neither would you presume to make such a Claim in their presence, you treat them with much more circumspection: The Indians have never looked upon the English in any other light than as Brothers; so far from acknowledging them for Masters, they declare themselves to be in every Respect independant: I say, even, they are not backward in asserting that the English are their Dependants, with respect to the Settlements which they have made upon their Lands, and that when they think proper, they will remove them off of those Lands.

If ever the five Nations become Subjects to any Crowns, they cannot avoid paying Allegiance to the King my Master. And indeed, Sir, you are not ignorant, that both antient and modern Historians, declare, that the French are the first Europeans who appeared upon the Lands belonging to the five Nations: It is with them that they formed the first Ties of friendship: It is from them that they received the first Succours; in consequence of which, they from that time called the French their Father.

From whence it clearly appears, that the French being the first that entered the Country of the Iroquois, they from that Moment took possession thereof, & that possession has not been interrupted.

If the property of these Lands was liable to be contested, between the Kings our Masters, and that this Question had been debated at the Treaties of Utrecht or Aix la Chapelle, it would in justice have been decided in favour of France.

The Iroquois will be alone Masters of their Lands, they are continually saying, That as God gave them those Lands, so they acknowledge none but him for their Lord & Master, this is what they have declared by authentic Acts, both to the English & French.

I must add, that in the Wars the French have had with them, after they had conquered their Lands, they returned them, and reinstated them in their former Possessions, by solemn Treaties.

From the whole of which it must be concluded, that nothing could authorise your Excellency's Complaint against the Settlement which I have caused to be made: It was made with the knowledge and in Sight of the Iroquois of the five Nations, the only persons who had a right to complain of it; they have not opposed it; they have consented to it; and have acknowledged that it was of as much advantage to them, as it was to the French. It is only a kind of a Victualling House, a place of Refuge for the French travelling from the Upper Country.

I should never have thought that you would have demanded the 4 English Men who are detained; for tho' they said they had a Pass from the Governor of Pennsylvania, yet as it has not been shewn to me, by any one of them, they are looked upon as Vagabonds & Coureurs de Bois.

But by your Excellency's taking their Cause in Hand, I cannot but be persuaded that you uphold & approve their Conduct, I shall therefore give you an account, what were the Reasons that occasioned their Seizure.

You have heard, Sir, of the Journey which Mons. de Celeron made to the Belle Riviere in the Year 1749. by order of Mr. le Marquis de la Galissoniere: He there, for and in the Name of the King his Master, renewed the Possessions in which His Majesty has always been of these Lands: He also charged the English Traders who were there to depart. And writ to the Governor of Pennsylvania, that he has completed his Business; and further let him know that if any English Traders should hereafter be found on the Belle Riviere they would be treated with Severity.

I also wrote to you myself on that occasion the 7th of March 1750 desiring your Excellency would give forth your Orders, forbidding all the Subjects of Your England from going to Trade within the King my Master's Territories.

By the same Letter I also informed you that I was sensibly affected at the secret Intrigues carried on, by the English, in order to induce the Indians to endeavour the Destruction of the French, even those Indians who have ever been nearly attached to us.

All this you did not honour me with an answer, yet I flattered myself that you would take just measures to put a stop to the clandestine proceedings which were used to seduce these Indians; and uphold, on your part, the Union which ought to subsist between us.

But I have in Time been convinced of my mistake, the English far from confining themselves within the Limits of the King of Great Britain's Possessions have not only encreased more & more on the River A la Roche, kept open Houses, & Stores there. but have also adventured within Sight of the Strait, & even in the Miamis Fort.

This procedure exceeding the many villainous Arguments which had been made use of, the unhappy Consequences of which we are but too sensible of, put Mr. de Celeron

Commandt. at the Strait, under the necessity of arresting those English Men.

He at first arrested three of them, at Ayonoutoth, near the Lake d'Otsendehut, about ten Leagues from the City built at the Strait, the place which Nicolas, a Rebel Chief amongst the Hurons, had chosen to fortify himself in 1747.

These three English Subjects are named, Luke Arrowins, an Irishman, Inhabt. of Pennsylvania, Joseph Fortenier of La Ville de Gerge & Thomas Burke of Lancaster. The fourth, named John Patin of Willingstown, was arrested at the French fort of the Miamis, by Mr. de Villiers Commandt. there.

You ought, Sir, not to be surprized at the Seizure of these Men, it is certain, that had they not been led by Sinister views, they would not have run the risque of coming, as it where, under the Mouth of His most Christian Majesty's Cannon.

For proof whereof observe.

1st That they all knew what were the Contents of Mr. Celeron's Orders to the English Traders in 1749. these Orders are publick in all parts of New England, therefore the blame was on them for not having complyed with said Orders.

2. It cannot be said, that they were at Ayonoutoth with an intent to Trade, being only furnished with Presents for the Indians.

3. It is evident, that they intended to hold a Council with the Indians, in all Respects fatal to the French, for to that intent they Camp'd in a place which Nicolas the Huron Chief, who had rebelled against the French, had chose to fortify himself; their Intent was doubtless to bring the Indians to the same way of thinking as Nicolas, & by bringing over to their Sentiments the most noted amongst those Indians, cause them to put Nicolas's wicked project in execution.

4. What is remarkable, & conclusive is, that the Chief of those three Englishmen, named Luke Arrowin, speaks all the Indian Tongues, is well known in the upper Country, & is very capable of making them (i.e. the Indians) subscribe to whatsoever he desires. This proof is so perfect that it does not admit of a reply.

As to John Patin, his Intent in going into the Miamis Fort, was to persuade the Indians that remained there to join with those who had took refuge at the Belle Riviere. He was taken in the French fort; a farther proof is not necessary.

The few Effects belonging to these Prisoners, which were Seized, have been claimed by the Indians, as a right of plunder.

Mr. Cuyler has seen three of them in this City, they have not been misused, they are at liberty, & want nothing.

John Patin might have enjoyed the same Freedom, but he is so very unruly, & threatens so hard, that I have been obliged to cause him to be put in Prison at Quebec.

You hereby see, Sir, how the English Traders will be under no Restraint; nothing is able to keep them within Bounds; they redouble their Efforts to cause the Indian Nations to rise up in Arms against the French. It is time to put a Stop to it, You cannot do it soon enough.

If any French Man was so wicked as to do any thing to the prejudice of the English, I would inflict upon him the most severe Punishments. And if they should

be bold, as to go upon Lands belonging to the King of Great Britain, I disown such from this time, & consent that their Persons may be secured.

M.r Cuyler will acquaint you with the regard I have shewn him, I have supported him by my authority in the Affairs which he has had to transact in this Colony, tho' no way relating to the French, either directly or indirectly.

You will also learn from him how sincerely I desire to re-establish the best understandings between the Subjects of our Governments; it is what I shall always seek, & which we shall easily bring about as soon as your Excellency will join your indeavours to mine.

I ought not to conceal from you, Sir, how that your Deputy M.r Cuyler brought with him here M.r John Cuyler, his Brother, who is not mentioned in his Passport; I have been told that the said John Cuyler, who is a Merchant, was tranvarting Affairs, relating to Trade, not only with the French, but also with the Indians, being in continual Conference with them, in the House in which he Lodged, in this City; which Conduct of his, is, by no means allowable.

Thereby let your Excellency know, that I give Orders, that all the English Men that shall come into this Colony, without a Passport from their Governor, shall be sent back to New England.

I shall with impatience expect your Answer.

I have the honour to be, with Respect

Your very humble & very

obedient Servant

Lajonquiere

Translation of a Letter of M.r de la Jonquiere 10.th May 1751. from the Governor & Council of Canada To the Governor of New York

Copy.

Notes on the Governor of Canada's Letter of 10th August 1751.

His Excellency's Letter of 12th of June last, represents to the Governor of Canada the Infractions of the Treaty of Utrecht, in regard to the Fortification he is building at Niagara on the Lands of the five Nations and nearly in the Middle of their Country, and in regard to four English Traders, who were in time of Peace supposed to be taken Prisoners on Ohio River and plundered of their Merchandize, which his Excellency supposed was without the Governor of Canada's Knowledge or Consent; but requesting his Enquiry into these Things, and, if found true, to desist from building and to set the Prisoners at Liberty and to recompence them for their Damages.

The Governor of Canada by his Answer of 10th of August confesses the Things complained of to be true. Does not deny them to be Infractions of the Treaty of Utrecht, but observes a Number of Facts

as soundless

groundless and false in themselves, which (says he) had they been known at the Treaties of Utrecht and Aix la Chapelle the Dominion of England over the five Nations would not have been acknowledged by his Master the King of France, but rather that of his Master — Says the four Prisoners were taken trading with the Indians at Ohio contrary to an Ordinance of his forbidding the English to trade there; Tho' that be a Country belonging to the five Nations — And the Twightees and other Indians upon it who are not Natives of the five Nations have been long ago received by this Government into the same Covenant-Chain with the five Nations.

This seems to be treating His Britannick Majesty and the Treaties of Utrecht and Aix la Chapelle with Contempt; and the Letter seems (what he says) beyond an Answer; for the very answering would it seems be admitting

Solemn

Solemn Treaties to be called in Question.—
If any Answer be thought of to him, it
ought to be with the utmost Caution and
Deliberation and best Advice possible.

It would seem proper, that one Copy
of the Letter be sent forthwith to the Go-
vernor of Pensylvania for his Sentiments
upon it, as the Prisoners belonged to that
Government, and a great Part of Ohio
River is actually within the Grant to
the Proprietaries of Pensylvania.

It would seem also proper, that
other Copies be laid before His Majesty's
Ministers for Redress from the Court of
France; and that the Governor of Canada
may be recalled and punished for the
Infractions of the Treaties and Contempts
expressed in his Letter.

So far on the Letter in general.

I shall now make some Remarks upon
some of the Paragraphs of the Letter.

No. 1. To deny that the Six Nations ever
were Subjects of the King of Great Britain
when his Dominion over them is expressly

acknowledged

acknowledged by the 15th Article of the Treaty of Utrecht, is a Piece of unparalled Effrontery.

The Sentiments, which he there says the five Nations have, are what the French have been inspiring them with for many Years with the utmost application. And I wish they may not have prevailed too far. And if other Measures be not speedily taken as to Indian Affairs, there is no small Probability that they will prevail.

P. 2. I do not believe, that the French were the first White People that appeared upon the Lands of the five Nations, it is near an hundred and forty Years agoe, since the Dutch settled at Albany and Schenectady, which Places are part of the Country that belong to the five Nations, as appears by the Registers of Indian Affairs here and other authentic Monuments. And I question if the five Nations had then or for Scores of

Years

years after ever made friendship with the French, because of the Assistance that the French from their first coming to America always gave to the Algonquins the most ancient and inveterate Enemies of the five Nations.

§. 3. I know of no Possession that the French had of any Part of the Country of the five Nations 'till long after their Submission to the Dominion of Great Britain, and some few Years before the Revolution. And the first Possession of the French of any Part of their Country was, I believe, at Cadaraghqui; and that was no more at first than Leave from the five Nations to build a trading House in their Country for their Convenience. But they afterward having fortified that Place the five Nations took it from them twice; And tho' at the Peace they made with the French in 1694 (because not assisted in the War by any of the Colonies but New York, and found that they gave them not sufficient Assistance)

the

the French insisted upon settling again at Cadaraghqui, yet the five Nations absolutely refused their Consent to it as appears by the Indian Registers here.

The French Possession of de Troit was not till after the Peace of Reswick, and it appears these Incroachments were grievously complained of by the five Nations to the Governor of New York. And they insisted then that His Britanick Majesty should apply to the French King for Redress.

For that their converting those Settlements into Fortifications they saw might in time deprive them of their Beaver-hunting Country, which extends from Cadaraghqui Lake to the northermost Part of the Hurons Lake bounded on the Southward by Lake Erie and de Troit, and I suppose it was the many Applications to the Court of Great Britain after the Peace of Reswick, and during Queen Anne's War against those Encroachments of

the

the French, that induced the Court of Great Britain to insist at the Treaty of Utrecht upon an absolute Acknowledgement of the Dominion of Great Britain over the five Nations, which was conceded to by the fifteenth Article, for as to their first time of settling near Oniagara, it was only about the year 1720. — And these three are the only Settlements I know of, that the French have in the Country of the five Nations; how far these (Complained of as before) will be from supporting that Assertion of the Governor of Canada, I submit.

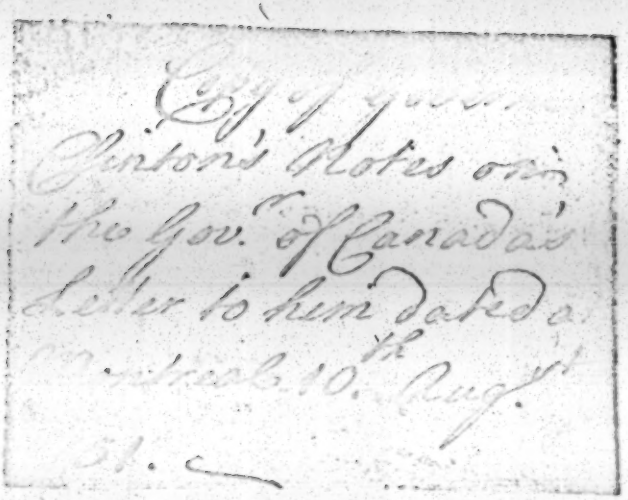
N. 4. The Settlement he is now making at Oniagara into a Fortification is done in the sight and in Defiance of the five Nations and of the Treaty of Utrecht. — The last Conference with the five Nations at Albany in July last will shew how far they are from consenting to it. — They are too sensible of the Consequences of it ever in their Senses to consent. — Possibly the Pretence he uses in saying, that it is only

only for a Place of Refreshment for Travellers may with large Presents have prevailed on some Particular Men of the Five Nations to consent to it, as was done at their former Settlements at Cadaraghqui, Detroit and near Oniagara. But the sad Experience the Five Nations have found those refreshing Places turn'd into Fortifications in Defiance of the and that they keep them against the Treaty of Utrecht, and all the Applications that have been made for Redress, And by means of these they will before long, if a proper Remedy be not found, not only deprive the Five Nations of their Beaver-hunting Country, but stop all Intercourse between the English and the far Nations of Indians in Alliance with the five Nations, as Oniagara is the Rout by which they come.

As

As to the four Prisoners, it would seem that the Governor of Pennsylvania is the most proper Person to make Remarks on that Part of the Letter.

See the Extracts from the Indian Register herewith.


Copy of Jones
Pinton's Notes on
the Gov.r of Canada's
Letter to him dated a.
Montreal 10.th Aug.t
51.

we most sincerely rejoice to hear is perfectly reestablished.

If the fervent Prayers of all good Men may prevail, we have the strongest reason to hope, that your Majesties precious Life will long be spared, as a Blessing to your Dominions, and for an Example of Instruction to the young Prince; who, having the inestimable advantage of being formed by your Majesties wise Counsel and Direction, cannot fail to imbibe those just Maxims of Government, by the Practice whereof, Your Majesty has so successfully ..... promoted the true Interest of your People, and are so deservedly the Object of their warmest Gratitude and Affection.

We pray God to comfort and support your Majesty under this heavy Affliction, ... alleviate your Sorrow and shower down on your Royal Person, and every Branch of your Royal Family the choicest of his Blessings.

The above was signed by the Governor and all the Members present, and sent to the Proprietor to be presented to his Majesty.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Monday the 12th of August 1751.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Joseph Turner, Richard Peters } Esquires

Robert Strettell, William Logan } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A Petition from the Captain Officers and Sailors on board a French Vessel called the Dauphin now in the River Delaware, was read, setting forth "That the Sloop was bound "from St. Domingo to Louisburg, and in her Voyage sprung a Leak off of the Capes of "Delaware, which filled the Vessel so fast, that they coud not get the better of it with continual "pumping, owing, as they think, to the bad careening of the said Sloop, and further, that "their Casks were bad and leaked, which reduced them to a Necessity of putting into this which "was the first Port - and praying Leave to enter and refit so as to be put into a Condition of ..... "proceeding on their Voyage."

A Committee was appointed to examine into the Facts, and on their Report, that they found what was set forth in the Petition to be true, Leave was given to the Captain to refit.

The Assembly having met last Night, and given Notice thereof by two of their Members to the Governor, his Honour laid before the Board the Proceedings of Mr George ... Croghan at Ohio, and likewise a Letter from the Justices of Cumberland County complaining of great Disorders being committed by abundance of Persons concernd in the Indian Trade and likewise Mr Weisers Journal of his Proceedings at Onondago which were all read and the following Message drawn thereupon, and sent by the Secretary to the House.

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

Gentlemen,

You will herewith receive Messieurs Croghan's and Montour's Account of their Proceedings, at the Delivery of the Present, voted by you last Fall, to the Indians at Ohio: and I am in hopes you will find it arrived very seasonably, and has had a good Effect.

By the Speech inserted in Mr Croghan's Journal (said to have been made by Monsieur Joncaire by Order of the Governor of Canada) to the Indians assembled in Council, and by a Letter of the said Joncaire to me, of the Sixth of June last, which I have ordered to be laid before you; you will perceive the Extensiveness of the French Claims on this Continent; That they are not content with enjoying the Benefits of a free and unmolested Commerce themselves, without making it at the same time exclusive of all others: and to that Purpose, have used their utmost

Endeavours

Endeavours to prevail on those Indians to drive away our Traders from amongst them, and to discontinue any further Intercourse with them, on Pain of incurring the Displeasure of the French Government. But as their Menaces have not as yet had the desired Effect, it is not unreasonable to suppose, that when the last Answer of the Indians upon that head, shall be reported to the Governor of Canada, it will put him upon Measures to obtain by Force, what has hitherto been denied to every other Kind of Sollicitation, in which, should he succeed, a very valuable Branch of Trade will be entirely lost to this Province. The Indians themselves are so apprehensive of the Consequences of their refusing to comply with the French Demands, that they have earnestly requested this Government to erect a strong Trading House on the River Ohio, for the Protection of their Wives and Children, in case they should be obliged to engage in a War on that Account, and to serve likewise as a Place of Security to our Traders, without whose Assistance, they say they cannot live: And as I have it in Charge from the Honourable Proprietaries to recommend this Matter to You, and to make such an Offer of contributing to the Expence of erecting and supporting it, as I am perswaded you will think very generous; I cannot excuse myself from desiring You to give it a very serious Consideration, and to come to such Resolution thereupon as the present favourable Opportunity seems to point out.

By a Letter herewith delivered You, which I have lately received from the Justices of Cumberland County; you will see that great Complaints are made of the Irregularities of many of the Persons concerned in the Indian Trade; and of the Difficulties that attend the bringing Offenders to Justice, in Countries so remote from the Inhabitants; whence it should seem, our Laws in that respect stand in need of some Alterations or Additions, to render them effectual for the good Purposes intended by them. Whenever therefore, you shall think fit to take that Subject into Consideration, I shall readily concur with You in any Measures that may tend to the better inforcing the Laws already in being, or in making such new Provisions as may be thought necessary for the more regular and orderly carrying on that Trade.

Mr Croghan has been at a considerable Expence in bringing some Criminals to their Tryal, and in supporting the Witnesses on their Journey, of which he has delivered in his Account, which you will please to inspect and discharge.

Mr Montour is expected in Town by my Order, to receive a Recompence for his Services, which you will find, have taken up a great deal of his Time; and as I must do him the Justice to say that (by what appears to me) he has well performed what was intrusted to him; I hope you will pay him to his Satisfaction.

Mr Weiser is likewise expected in Town, and will relate to You his Proceedings in the Execution of my Instructions respecting the Delivery of the Present to the Six Nations at Albany.

August 13. 1751. James Hamilton.

An ACCOUNT of the Proceedings of George Croghan Esquire and Mr Andrew Montour at Ohio, in the Execution of the Governors Instructions to deliver the Provincial Present to the several Tribes of Indians settled there.

May the 18th 1751.
I arrived at the Logs Town on Ohio with the Provincial Present from the Province of Pennsylvania, where I was received by a great Number of the Six Nations, Delawares and Shawonese in a very complaisant manner in their way, by firing Guns and hoisting the English Colours. as soon as I came to the Shore, their Chiefs met me and took me by the Hand bidding me welcome to their Country

May the 19th
One of the Six Nation Kings from the Heads of Ohio came to the Logstown to the Council, he immediately came to visit me, and told me he was glad to see a Messenger from his Brother Onas on the Waters of Ohio.

May the 20th
Forty Warriors of the Six Nations came to Town from the Heads of Ohio with Mr Joncaire and one ... Frenchman more in Company.

May

24. 126.

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May the 21st. 1751.
Mr Joncaur the French Interpreter called a Council with all the Indians then present in the Town and made the following Speech

Children
I desire you may now give me an answer from your hearts to the Speech Monsieur Celoron (the Commander of the Party of Two Hundred Frenchmen that went down the River two Years ago) made to You. His Speech was That their Father the Governor of Canada desired his Children on Ohio to turn away the English Traders from amongst them and to discharge them from ever coming to trade there again, or on any of the Branches on Pain of incurring his Displeasure, and to enforce that Speech, he gave them a very large Belt of Wampum. Immediately one of the Chiefs of the Six Nations got up and made the following answer.

Fathers
I mean you that call yourselves our Fathers hear what I am going to say to you. You desire we may turn our Brothers the English away, and not suffer them to come and trade with us again. I now tell you from our Hearts we will not, for we ourselves brought them here to trade with us, and they shall live amongst us as long as there is one of us alive, you are always threatning our Brothers what you will do to them, and in particular to that man (pointing to me) now if you have any thing to say to our Brothers tell it to him if you be a Man as you Frenchmen always say you are, and the Head of all Nations. Our Brothers are the People we will trade with, and not you. Go and tell your Governor to ask the Onondago Council, if I dont speak the Minds of all the Six Nations, and then returned the Belt.

I paid Cochawitchake the old Shawonese King a Visit, as he was rendered incapable of attending the Council by his great Age, and let him know that his Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania was glad to hear that he was still alive and retained his Senses, and had ordered me to cloathe him and to acquaint him, that he had not forgot his strict Attachment to the English Interest. I gave him a Stroud Shirt, Match Coat and a pair Stockings for which he gave the Governor a great many thanks.

May the 22d.
a Number of about forty of the Six Nations came up the River Ohio to Logstown to wait on the Council, as soon as they came to Town they came to my House and after shaking Hands they told me they were glad to see me safe arrived in their Country after my long Journey.

May the 23d.
Conhjarca one of the Chiefs of the Six Nations, and a Party with him from the Cuscushie came to Town to wait on the Council, and congratulated me upon my safe Arrival in their Country.

May the 24th.
Some Warriors of the Delawares came to Town from the Lower Shawonese Town, and brought a Scalp with them, they brought an account that the Southward Indians had come to the Lower Towns to War, and had killed some of the Shawonese, Delawares and the Six Nations, so that we might not expect any People from there to the Council.

May the 25th.
I had a Conference with Monsieur Joncaur, he desired I would excuse him, and not think hard of him for the Speech he made to the Indians, requesting them to turn the English Traders away, and not to suffer them to trade, for it was the Governor of Canada's Orders to him, and he was obliged to obey them, altho he was very sensible which way the Indians would receive them, for he was sure the French could not accomplish their designs with the Six Nations, without it could be done by Force, which he said he believed they would find to be as difficult as the method they had just tryed, and would meet with the like Success.

May the 26th.
A Dunbar from the Colony of Virginia came to the Logs Town and requested Liberty of the

the Six Nation Chiefs to make a Settlement on the River Yogh,yo,gaine, a Branch of Ohio, to which the Indians made Answer, that it was not in their Power to dispose of Lands that he must apply to the Council at Onondago, and further told him that he did not take a right method, for he should be first recommended by their Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania, with whom all Publick Business of that sort must be transacted before he need expect to succeed.

May the 27th.

Mr Montour and I had a Conference with the Chiefs of the Six Nations, when it was agreed upon that the following Speeches should be made to the Delawares, Shawonese, Owendatts and Twightwees, when the Provincial Present should be delivered them in the Name of the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of Newcastle, Kent and Sussex on Delaware, in Conjunction with the Chiefs of the Six United Nations on Ohio.

A TREATY with the Indians of the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese, Owendatts and Twightwees.

In the Logs Town on Ohio Thursday the 28th May 1751.

Present

Thomas Hinton	Joseph Nelson	Indian Traders
Samuel Cuzzens	James Brown	
Jacob Pyatt	Dennis Sullavan	
John Owens	Paul Pearce	
Thomas Ward	Caleb Lamb	

The Deputies of the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese, Owendatts and Twightwees.
Mr Andrew Montour Interpreter for the Province of Pennsylvania.
Joanshiscoe ... Interpreter for the Six Nations.

George Croghan made the following Speech to the several Nations, when they were met in Council in the Name of the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Governor of the Provina of Pennsylvania.

Friends and Brethren

I am sent here by your Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania, with this Present of Goods to renew the Friendship so long subsisting between Us, and I present you these four Strings of Wampum, to clear your Minds, and open your Eyes and Ears, that you may see the Sun clear, and hear what your Brother is going to say to you.

Gave 4 Strings of Wampum.

A Speech delivered the Delawares, in answer to the Speech they sent by Mr Weiser .... three Years ago to his Honour the Governor, to acquaint him of the Death of their chief King Oulamopes by George Croghan

Brethren the Delawares.

Three Years ago some of the Chiefs of your Nation, sent me a Message by Mr Weiser, to acquaint me of the Death of your King, a Man well beloved by his Brethren the English, you told Mr Weiser that you intended to visit me, in order to consult about a new Chief, but you never did it. I have ever since condoled with You for the Loss of so good a Man, and considering the lamentable Condition you were in for want of a Chief, I present You this Belt of Wampum, and this Present to wipe away your Tears, and I desire you may choose amongst yourselves one of your wisest Counsellors, and present to your Brethren the Six Nations, and me for a Chief, and he so chosen by you shall be looked upon by Us as your King, with whom Publick Business shall be

transacted

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transacted_ Brethren to enforce this on your Minds I present you this Belt of Wampum.
Gave a Belt of Wampum
Which was received with the Yo'hah

A Speech delivered the Shawonese from the Honourable James Hamilton Governor of Pennsylvania By George Croghan

Brethren the Shawonese

Three Years ago when some of your Chiefs, and some Chiefs of the Six Nations came down to Lancaster with our Brethren the Twightwees, they informed me that your People that went away with Peter Chartier was coming back, and since that, I hear that Part of them are returned_ I am glad to hear that they are coming home to you again, that you may become once more a People, and not as you were dispersed thro' the World_ I do not blame you for what happened, for the wisest of People sometimes make Mistakes, it was the French that the Indians call their Fathers that deceived You, and scattered You about the Woods, that they might have it in their Power to keep you poor_ Brethren, I assure you by this Present, that I am fully reconciled, and have forgot any thing that you have done, and I hope for the future, there will be a more free and open Correspondence between us, and now your Brethren the Six Nations join with me to remove any misunderstanding that should have happened between us, that we may henceforth spend the remainder of our Days together in Brotherly Love and Friendship_ Now that this Speech which your Brothers the Six Nations joyn with me in, may have its full Force on your minds_ I present You this Belt of Wampum_

Gave a Belt of Wampum.
Which was received with the Yo'hah

A Speech delivered the Owendatts from the Honourable James Hamilton Governor of Pennsylvania. By George Croghan.

Brethren the Owendatts

I received a Message by the Six Nations, and another by Mr. Montour from you, by both which I understand the French, whom the Indians call their Father, won't let you rest in your Towns in Peace; but constantly threaten to cut you off; how comes this: are you not a free and independent People, and have you not a Right to live where you please on your own Land, and trade with whom you please: Your Brethren the English; always considered you as a free Nation, and I think the French; who attempt to infringe on your Liberties, should be opposed by one and all the Indians, or any other Nations, that should undertake such unjust Proceedings_ Brethren I am sorry to hear of your Troubles, and I hope you and your Brethren the Six Nations, will let the French know that you are a free People, and will not be imposed on by them_ To assure You that I have your Troubles much at heart, I present You this Belt and this Present of Goods to cloathe your Families.

Gave a Belt of Wampum.
Which was received with the Yo'hah

A Speech delivered the Twightwees from the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Governor of Pennsylvania. By George Croghan.

Brethren the Twightwees

As you are an antient and renowned Nation, I was well pleased when you sent your Deputies now three years ago, to sollicit our alliance; nor did we hesitate to grant you your Request, as it came so warmly recommended to us by our Brethren the Six Nations, ... Delawares and Shawonese_ at your further Request, we ordered our Traders to go amongst you, and supply you with Goods at as reasonable rates as they could afford_ we understand that in obedience to our Commands, our Traders have given you full Satisfaction to your

Request

Request. In one of your Towns about three months ago Mr George Croghan likewise informs us that some more of your Tribes earnestly requested to become our allies. He and Mr Montour did receive a Writing from You certifying such your Request, and containing your Promises of Fidelity and Friendship which we have seen and approve of. Brethren We have recommended it to our Brethren the Six Nations to give you their advice how you should behave in your new Alliance with Us, and we expect that you will follow it, that the Friendship now subsisting between Us, the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawaneses, Owendatts and You may become as strong as a great Mountain, which the Winds constantly blow against but never overset Brethren to assure You of our hearty Inclinations towards You, I make you this Present of Goods, and that this Speech which I make you now in Conjunction with the Six Nations may have its full Force on your Minds, I present you this Belt of Wampum

Gave a Belt

Which was received with the Yo'hah.

A Speech made to the Six United Nations by George Croghan in behalf of the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania.

Brethren the Six Nations, hear what I am going to say to you.

Brethren, it is a great while since we your Brothers the English first came over the great Water (meaning the Sea) as soon as our Ship struck the Land You the Six Nations took hold of her and tyed her to the Bushes, and for fear the Bushes would not be strong enough to hold her, you removed the Rope and tyed it about a great Tree, then fearing the Winds would blow the Tree down, you removed the Rope and tyed it about a great mountain in the Country (meaning the Onondago Country) and since that time we have lived in true Brotherly Love and Friendship together. Now Brethren since that, there are several Nations joined in Friendship with You and Us, and of late our Brethren the Twightwees. Now Brethren as you are the Head of all the Nations of Indians, I warmly recommend it to you to give our Brethren the Twightwees your best advice that they may know how to behave in their new Alliance, and likewise I give our Brethren the Owendatts in charge to you, that you may strengthen them to withstand their Enemies the French, who I understand treat them more like Enemies than Children, tho' they call themselves their Father.

Brethren I hope We your Brothers the English, and you the Six Nations, ... Delawares, Shawonese, Owendatts and Twightwees will continue in such Brotherly Love and Friendship, that it will be as strong as that Mountain to which You tyed our Ship. Now Brethren, I am informed by George Croghan that the French obstruct my Traders and carry away their Persons and Goods, and are guilty of many outrageous Practices, whereby the Roads are rendered unsafe to travel in, nor can we ask our Traders to go amongst You, whilst their Lives and Effects are in such great Danger. How comes this to pass? Don't this proceed from the Pride of Onontio, whom the Indians call their Father, because they don't see his ill Designs? The strong Houses you gave him Leave to erect on your Lands serve (as your Brethren the English always told You) to impoverish You and keep your Wives and Children always naked, by keeping the English Traders at a Distance, the French well knowing the English sell their Goods cheaper than they can afford, and I can assure You, Onontio will never rest, while an English Trader comes to Ohio, and indeed if you dont open your Eyes and put a Stop to his Proceedings he will gain his Ends. Brethren I hope you will consider well what Onontio means or is about to do. To enforce what I have been saying to You on your Minds, I present you this Belt of Wampum.

Gave a Belt

They received this Belt with Yo-hah —

The Speaker of the Six Nations made the following Speech to Monsieur Joncaur in open Council; he spoke very quick and sharp with the Air of a Warrior.

Father How comes it that You have broke the General Peace? Is it not three Years since, you as well as our Brothers the English, told Us that there was a Peace between the English and

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and French, and how comes it that You have taken our Brothers as your Prisoners on our Lands: Is it not our Land? (Stamping on the Ground and putting his Finger to Johnseen's Nose) What Right has Onontio to our Lands? I desire you may go home directly off our Lands, and tell Onontio to send us word immediately, what was his Reason for using our Brothers so, or what he means by such Proceedings, that we may know what to do, for I can assure Onontio, that We the Six Nations will not take such Usage. You hear what I say, and that is the Sentiments of all our Nations, tell it to Onontio, that that is what the Six Nations said to You.

Gave 4 Strings black Wampum.

After which the Chief of the Indians ordered the Goods to be divided, and appointed some of each Nation to stand by to see it done, that those that were absent might have a sufficient Share laid by for them.

After which the Chiefs made me a Speech, and told me it was a Custom with their Brothers whenever they went to Council, to have their Guns, Kettles and Hatchets mended, and desired I might order that done, for they could not go home, till they had that done. So Mr Montour and I agreed to comply with their Request, and ordered it done, that they might depart well satisfied.

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May the 29. 1751.
Present

Samuel Cruson	Joseph Nellson	Indian Traders
John Owens	James Brown	
Jacob Pyatt	Dennis Sullivan	
Thomas Ward		

The Chiefs of the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese and Owendatts.
Mr Andrew Montour Interpreter.

The Beaver the Speaker of the Delawares made the following Speech in answer to the Speech made them Yesterday.

Brethren directing his Speech to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

We heared what you said Yesterday to us, we thank you for considering our lamentable Condition for want of a Chief, it is true what you told us, we have been like People in the dark, not knowing where to go, nor what to do. Now Brother, our Hearts are glad, for you have opened our Eyes that We may see the Sun clear, and you have .... directed us how to behave, it is good, we will be directed by you our Brothers, and do what you bid us, and to assure You our Hearts are ready to receive your advice we send you these two Strings of Wampum

Gave two Strings

He added that as all their wise men were not gathered together, it would take some time to consider on a Man that was fit to undertake to rule a Nation of People, but as soon as possible they would make a full answer, which they hoped would give Satisfaction to their Brothers the English and the Six Nations.

A Speech received from the Shawonese in answer to the Speech delivered them yesterday.
Keeshequeatama Speaker

Brethren directing his Speech to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

We the Shawonese return You our hearty thanks for the kind Speech you made yesterday, you have now washed our Eyes and opened our Ears that we may see the Sun clear, and hear what you our Brothers will at any time say to us, and we assure you our Brothers

the

the English our Hearts are all good and true towards You, and we will be ready and willing at any time to hear what you say to Us, and will take your Advice only, and to assure You of the Truth of what we say, we send You those three Strings of Wampum.

Gave three Strings

A Speech received from the Chiefs of the several Nations, one of the Six Nations Speaker, in answer to the Speeches sent them last Winter by the Governor of Virginia, and delivered them by Mr Christopher Guest.

Brethren, directing their Discourse to the Governor of Virginia.

We received your Messages by your Messenger Mr Guest, letting us know that our great Father beyond the Seas, not forgetting us his Children on this side the great water, has sent a Present of Goods to your Care for Us, we all return you our hearty thanks for your care in sending us word so soon as you did. Now Brother we expect you will consider, that we are a poor People, and at War with the Southward Indians, and don't know but some of our Nations may soon be struck by the French, so that it is not in our Power to go down to hear what our great Father has to say to Us; But our Brothers of Pennsylvania have kindled a Council Fire here, and we expect you will send our Fathers Speeches to us here, for we long to hear what our great Father the King of Great Britain has to say to Us his poor Children. Brother that this Speech may have its full Effect on your Mind, we send you these four Strings of Wampum

Gave 4 Strings

A Speech made by the Commissioners of the Owendatts sent to the Council by that Nation to receive what Speeches their Brothers the English had brought them.

The Great Arrow Speaker

Brothers we have heard what you said yesterday to our Nation, we return you our hearty thanks for the care of us and our People, but as we are not impowered to give a full answer, we desire to be excused at this time; but upon our Return home, we will call a Council, and then our Brothers may expect a suitable answer to the kind Speeches they have sent us. I hope our Brother the Governor will accept those four Strings of Wampum till they get a fuller answer.

Gave four Strings.

A Speech received from the Six Nations the Speaker directed his Discourse to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

Tawago
Conajarca
Torasoughho } Six Nation Chiefs
Connestraho
Contughqua

Toanohiso ------- Speaker.

Brother

We your Brethren the Six Nations have heard what you said to us yesterday, we thank you for your good advice, and you may depend on our giving our new Brethren the Twightwees our best advice, and we will have them and the Owendatts always under our Eyes as well as the Delawares and Shawonese, that We may all become as one People, which is the way to be as strong on Ohio as that Mountain which you mention in your Speech which is the Onondago Country. Brother as to what you mention of the Traders being taken by the French, we your Brethren the Six Nations have a true Sense of the ill usage you have received from the French, and we can assure you we will take a Method to oblige the French to make Satisfaction. Brother we have discharged the French from amongst us, and told them that they should not build upon our Land. Now

Brothers

Pennsylvania 1751.

Brothers we have been considering what the French mean by their Behaviour, and believe they want to cheat us out of our Country, but we will stop them and Brother you must help us, we expect that you our Brother will build a strong House on the River Ohio, that if we should be obliged to engage in a War, that we should have a Place to secure our Wives and Children, likewise to secure our Brothers that come to trade with us, for without our Brothers supply us with Goods we cannot live. Now Brothers we will take two months to consider and choose out a Place fit for that Purpose, and then we will send you word. We hope Brothers as soon as you receive our Message you will order such a House to be built. Brothers that you may consider well the necessity of building such a Place of Security to strengthen our Arms, and that this our first Request of that kind may have a good effect on your minds we send you this Belt of Wampum.

Gave a Belt.

A Speech made by the Six Nations in behalf of the Twightwees as none of them were present.

Brethren

We your Brothers the Six Nations received your Message to the Twightwees and the Present, which we assure you we will deliver them safe, and we will join you and make a Speech to them to let them understand that We will put our Hands on their Heads, so that if any Nation strikes them, our Fingers must be cut off before they are hurt, we hope this Speech with the Present will have its desired Effect on the Minds of our new Brethren, so that we may all become united as one People.

Gave two Strings of Wampum

May the 30th

I took my leave of the Chiefs of the several Nations, when I made each of them some small Presents reserved for that Purpose by Mr Montour and myself, they wished me a good Journey home and desired they might be remembered to their Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania and all the wise Counsellors, and desired me to assure them that they would always observe what their Brothers the English would tell them. ——

Copy of a Letter sent to the Governor by Mr George Croghan with the above Treaty

Pennsboro' June 10th 1751.

May it please your Honour

Inclosed is a Copy of the Treaty held on Ohio by your Honours ..... Instructions on delivering your Honours Present to the several Nations of Indians residing there, I hope your Honour on perusing the Proceedings of the Treaty will find that I have observed your Honours Instructions in every Speech that I delivered from your Honour. I took all the Pains I could to make the Present have its full Force and Weight with the ..... Indians, and I have the Pleasure of assuring your Honour, that the Indians were all unanimously well pleased at your Honours Speeches, and likewise acknowledged it was a great Present, and the Chiefs of the Six Nations took great Pains with me in dividing it amongst the other Nations, that it might have its full Force with them, which I assure your Honour it had, for every man I saw there was well satisfied with his Share of the ..... Present, the Indians in general expressed a high Satisfaction at having the opportunity in the Presence of Joncaur of expressing their hearty Love and Inclinations towards the ..... English, and likewise to assure your Honour, what Contempt they had for the French, which your Honour will see by the Speeches they made Joncaur. Joncaur has sent a Letter to your Honour which I enclose here. Mr Montour has exerted himself very much on this occasion, ... and as he is not only very capable of doing the Business, but looked on amongst all the Indians as one of their Chiefs, I hope your Honour will think him worth Notice, and recommend it to the Assembly to make him full Satisfaction for his Trouble, as he has ..... employed all his Time in the Business of the Government. I hope your Honour will

recommend

recommend it to the Government of Virginia to answer the Speech sent them now in answer to their own Speech sent last Fall as soon as possible - May it please your Honour, I make bold to send down my Account against the Province, for what Wampum I delivered Mr Montour to make the Speeches last Fall and this Spring delivered by your Honours Instructions. Mr Montour is at my House and will wait on your Honour when you please to appoint the time, I hope what has been transacted at this Treaty will be pleasing to your Honour, as I am sure the Present had its full Force, and shall defer any farther Account till you have the opportunity of examining. Mr. Montour - I am your Honours most obedient humble Servant

Geo: Croghan

A Letter to Governor Hamilton from Joncaire.

De Chininque Le 6 de Juin 1751.

Monsieur,

Monsieur Le Marquis de Lajonquierre Gouverneur de toute la nouvelle France m'ayant Honoré de ses ordres pour Veiller à ce que les Anglois ne fassent aucune Traitté dans le Continant de la belle Rivierre J'ay signifier aux negotiants de votre Gouvernement de se Retirer.

Vous n'ignorez pas Monsieur que toutes les Terres de ce Continant, ont de tout Temp appartenu au Roy de France, et que les Anglois n'ont aucun droit pour y venir faire leurs Commerce.

Mon General m'a ordonner de vous donner avis de ce que J'ay fais afin que vous n'en puissiez pretendre Cause d'ignorance, et il m'a donné cet ordre avec d'autant plus de Raison, qu'il y ait deux ans, Monsieur de Celoron par Ordre de Monsieur de Lagalissonnierre alors Commandant General somma plusieur negotiant Anglois qui faisoient La Traitté avec les Sauvages de la belle Rivierre, ce quils firent et luy promirent de ne plus revenir traitter sur ces Terres ce que Mr. de Celoron vous Ecrivit En Consequence de ce qui pouroit arriver.

J'ay L'Honneur d'estre avec Respect
Monsieur

Votre tres humble et tres
obeissant Serviteur
Joncaire - Lieutenant du
Detachement de la Marinne.

Mr Weisers Journal of his Proceedings at Onondago.

1751 June 27th. Arrived in Albany. the thirtieth following the Indians arrived, several of the Chiefs came to see me that very day, and all the Indians being impatient to hear my Message, the fifth of July I went to his Excellency the Governor of New York to ask Leave to deliver my Message, I had not the Honour to see his Excellency but one Mr Ashew carried my Request to him who brought back Answer, to wit, that his Excellency must have it in Writing in order to Lay it before the Council. I told Mr Ashew that I could say no more to the Indians, than what was contained in my Instructions, the Governor wanted to see them - I sent them immediately, after they were read in Council, they were returned to me, and I was told that the Governor wanted to speak to me sometime in the afternoon. Accordingly in the afternoon I was sent for, when I came to the Governor, Mr Golding was with him; his Excellency was pleased to tell me that he wanted to speak to the Indians that Morning, but they were somewhere else engaged he did not know where; then required me not to speak to the Indians before he had done with them, and that I must give him in Writing what I would say to them - I made answer that I had it in charge not to speak to the Indians without his Excellencies Approbation and Foreknowledge, and had nothing else to say than what was contained in my Instructions (which I shewed again) then in my Hand; as for the

Indians

Pennsylvania. 1751.

Indians coming to see me, I could not lock up my door upon them, I did not care to offend them; his Excellency replied that he would not have me to offend the Indians, and so dismissed me for that time.
July the 9. Waited on his Excellency again to obtain leave to deliver my Message, was told that as soon as the Catabaws had their Answer I should.
July the 10. His Excellency gave me Leave to deliver my Message, I acquainted the Indians accordingly, and they met me that Evening at my Lodging, and as on such Occasions some particular Ceremonies are used, I employed Canachquaieson an Oneider Chief, to perform them for me, he was but the other day employed by Friend Stephans, the Interpreter for New York Government, on the same Occasion.

After most of the Indians were met, Canachquaieson stood up and beggd me to walk upon and down the Floor, and to sing Lamentation Songs in very melancholy Time; which he continued till all were met, and some time after; in the Song, mention was made of the Person or Persons for which he mourned, and their Virtue praised.

Then he told the Indians that the Governor of Pennsylvania had sent Tharachiawagon with a Message to the Six United Nations, which would now be delivered to them; and that what would be now said to them, was the very Words of the Governor and the People of Pennsylvania - a String of Wampum was given.

The Speaker Canachquaieson being before informed of my whole Message I only repeated the Beginning, and gave him a Belt of Wampum - he then went on and said.

Brethren the Six United Nations, the Governor of Pennsylvania was but last Year informed, of the Death of several of the Chiefs of the Six United Nations, dying on their way homewards from Philadelphia, and of the Death of Canassatego and Silgo Ian Achly who both died since their Arrival at their own Town.
The Governor of Pennsylvania was very sorry to hear of the Death of those his good Friends and Brethren, has therefore sent Tharachiawagon to the Council Fire at Onondago, with a Present to signify to the Counsel of the Six United Nations, that himself and the People of Pennsylvania condole with them on the Loss of such valuable Persons, and hath sent that Present to wipe off their Tears. Eight Pieces of Strouds were laid before them, and a String of Wampum given.
A Piece of Strouds was delivered in particular (on the Death of Canassatego) to the Onondagers
Item, Seven Stroud matchcoats on the Death of Cunjaquca a noted Warrior among the Mohocks killed by the French in the late War in his majesties Service.
Item, Six Strowd matchcoats on the Death of a Son of Layenquarachton a Sinicker Chief, who was killed after the same manner.

Songs of Lamentation being sung by Canachquaieson, on the Death of these two great Warriors, who had made a Sacrifice of their Lives for the Common Cause and in obedience to his Majesty King George.

The Indians appeared well pleased and looked upon the Present to be a large one on such an Occasion. The Indians had a Consultation together for a good while about an answer. I understood that they were at a Loss for some Skins to send as a Present to the Governor of Pennsylvania, to wipe off his and his Peoples Tears over the Death of Canassatego &c others. I gave them to understand that they need not stop for that at this time, that I would excuse them in the best manner I could with the Governor and People of Pennsylvania, as I knew they had parted with what they had on other occasions, and I gave them further to understand, that at a certain Hour that night, I must go on board the only Vessel that was left, and stayd on purpose to take me in by the time of high water to which they consented - The Governor of New York and his Council and other Gentlemen being all gone that afternoon.

Then Abraham a Mohock Chief stood up and returned thanks in the best manner he could, and said a great deal of the Satisfaction this Present gave them, and that they took it as a fresh Token of the Brotherly Love of the Governor and People of Pennsylvania towards

towards the Six United Nations, and desired me to return thanks in their behalf to the Governor and People of Pennsylvania in the best I could, and gave a String of Wampum.

By another String of Wampum he said Brother Sharachiawagon we thank you for this Visit, we will take care of your Son, we look upon him as one of our own Children, we will use our best Indeavour to learn him to speak our Language well, we are very glad you brought him to us, as to your Town, it shews that you retain the same Love as you did formerly to us.

The Indians expiressed in general a good deal of Satisfaction, and shook hands with Sammy Weiser and Daniel Clause to signify to them that they received them kindly - So the Business ended.

Conrad Weiser.

At a Council held at Philadelphia. Friday the 16th of August 1751.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor

Richard Peters, Conrad Weiser } Esquires

Andrew Montour

Five Nantycoke Indians

Four Nantycoke Indians arrived in Town from Wyomen on Sasquehana, and having informed the Governor that they had some Business with him, he appointed them to come to him this day.

after the usual Salutations one of them spoke as follows

Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania

In the beginning of this Year, one of the Nantycokes was committed to Prison at Lancaster, for abusing a White Girl one of your Children, but after he had been there some time, you very graciously at our earnest Request set him at Liberty. We are desirous to remove all Resentment out of your Hearts for this abuse, which caused us to shed many Tears, and this String of Wampum is given you to remove from your hearts all ill will to us on that account.

A String.

Brother

Now that there remains no ill will to us in your heart, we can speak to you with the greater freedom. With this String we heartily thank you for pardoning our Brother, and letting him come to us again. You used him as if he had not been guilty, and we heartily thank You for it with this String.

Here a String.

Brother

We passed about nine Years ago by your door, we came from Maryland, and asked your Leave to go and settle among our Brethren the Delawares, and you gave us leave. You will wonder that you have not seen us since, so we now come down to tell you, that we did for some time live at the mouth of Juniata, but are now settled at Wyomen. This you should know, for we now belong to you - With this String therefore we inform you of our Removal from Juniata, and Settlement at Wyomen.

A String

Brother

We now speak in behalf of all our People the old men and old women, the young men and young women the Children of both Sexes, and those who are yet in the Belly - We all speak from the bottom of our hearts, not from our mouth when we tell you, that we are your Brethren, and will ever preserve a most sincere affection for you, and heartily beg that we may be favoured with your Protection and Care of us. It was given us in charge to mention our Regards for you separately, for the old, then for the young, then for the Children already

born

The above was signed by the Governor and all the Members present, and sent to the Proprietor to be presented to his Majesty.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Monday the 12th of August, 1751.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Robert Strettell,
Joseph Turner, William Logan, } Esqrs.
Richard Peters,

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A Petition from the Captain, Officers, and Sailors on board a French Vessel called the "Dauphin," now in the River Delaware, was read, setting forth "That the Sloop was bound from St. Domingo to Louisburg, and in her Voyage sprung a Leak off of the Capes of Delaware which filled the Vessel so fast that they cou'd not get the better of it with continual pumping, owing as they think to the bad careening of the said sloop, and further, that their Casks were bad and leaked, which reduced them to a necessity of putting into this which was the first Port, and praying Leave to enter and refit so as to be put into a condition of proceeding on their Voyage."

A Committee was appointed to examine into the Facts, and on their Report that they found what was set forth in the Petition to be true Leave was given to the Captain to refit.

The Assembly having met last Night, and given notice thereof by two of their Members to the Governor, his Honour laid before the Board the Proceedings of Mr. George Croghan at Ohio, and likewise a Letter from the Justices of Cumberland County complaining of Great Disorders being committed by abundance of Persons concerned in the Indian Trade, and likewise Mr. Weiser's Journal of his Proceedings at Onondago which were all read, and the following Message drawn thereupon and sent by the Secretary to the House:

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"You will herewith receive Messieurs Croghan's and Montour's Account of their Proceedings at the Delivery of the Present voted by you last Fall to the Indians at Ohio, and I am in hopes you will find it arrived very seasonably and has had a good Effect.

"By the Speech inserted in Mr. Croghan's Journal (said to have been made by Monsieur Ioncaire by order of the Governor of Canada) to the Indians assembled in Council, and by a Letter of the said Ioncaire to me of the sixth of June last, which I have ordered

to be laid before you, you will perceive the Extensiveness of the French Claims on this Continent; That they are not content with enjoying the Benefits of a free and unmolested Commerce themselves without making it at the same time exclusive of all others, and to that Purpose have used their utmost Endeavours to prevail on those Indians to drive away our Traders from amongst them and to discontinue any further Intercourse with them on Pain of incurring the Displeasure of the French Government. But as their Menaces have not as yet had the desired Effect, it is not unreasonable to suppose that when the last answer of the Indians upon that head shall be reported to the Governor of Canada, it will put him upon measures to obtain by Force what has hitherto been denied to every other Kind of Sollicitation, in which should he succeed a very valuable Branch of Trade will be entirely lost to this Province. The Indians themselves are so apprehensive of the Consequences of their refusing to comply with the French Demands, that they have earnestly requested this Government to erect a strong Trading House on the River Ohio for the Protection of their Wives and Children in case they should be obliged to engage in a war on that account, and to serve likewise as a Place of Security to our Traders, without whose assistance they say they cannot live; and as I have it in charge from the Honourable Proprietaries to recommend this matter to you and to make such an offer of contributing to the expence of erecting and supporting it as I am perswaded you will think very generous, I cannot excuse myself from desiring you to give it a very serious Consideration, and to come to such Resolution thereupon as the present favorable Oopportunity seems to point out.

"By a Letter herewith delivered you which I have lately received from the Justices of Cumberland County, You will see that great Complaints are made of the Irregularities of many of the Persons concerned in the Indian Trade, and of the Difficulties that attend the bringing offenders to Justice in countries so remote from the Inhabitants, whence it should seem our Laws in that respect stand in need of some Alterations or Additions to render them effectual for the good Purposes intended by them. Whenever, therefore, you shall think fit to take that Subject into consideration I shall readily concur with you in any measures that may tend to the better inforcing the Laws already in being, or in making such new Provisions as may be thought necessary for the more regular and orderly carrying on that Trade.

"Mr. Croghan has been at a considerable Expense in bringing some Criminals to their Tryal and in supporting the Witnesses on their Journey, of which he has delivered in his Account, which you will please to inspect and discharge.

"Mr. Montour is expected in Town by my order, to receive a Recompence for his Services, which you will find have taken up a great deal of his Time, and as I must do him the Justice to say that (by

what appears to me) he has well performed what was intrusted to him, I hope you will pay him to his Satisfaction.

"Mr. Weiser is likewise expected in Town, and will relate to you his Proceedings in the Execution of my Instructions respecting the Delivery of the Present to the Six Nations at Albany.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"August 13th, 1751."

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"*An Account of the Proceedings of George Croghan, Esquire, and Mr. Andrew Montour at Ohio, in the Execution of the Governor's Instructions to deliver the Provincial Present to the several Tribes of Indians settled there:*

"May the 18th, 1751.—I arrived at the Log's Town on Ohio with the Provincial Present from the Province of Pennsylvania, where I was received by a great number of the Six Nations, Delawares, and Shawonese, in a very complaisant manner in their way, by firing Guns and Hoisting the English Colours. As soon as I came to the shore their Chiefs met me and took me by the Hand bidding me welcome to their Country.

"May the 19th.—One of the Six Nation Kings from the Head of Ohio came to the Logstown to the Council, he immediately came to visit me, and told me he was glad to see a Messenger from his Brother Onas on the waters of Ohio.

"May the 20th.—Forty Warriors of the Six Nations came to Town from the Heads of Ohio, with Mr. Ioncœur and one Frenchman more in company.

"May the 21st, 1751.—Mr. Ioncœur, the French Interpreter, called a council with all the Indians then present in the Town, and made the following Speech:

"'Children—

"'I desire you may now give me an answer from your hearts to the Speech Monsieur Celeron (the Commander of the Party of Two Hundred Frenchmen that went down the River two Years ago) made to you.' His Speech was, That their Father the Governor of Canada desired his Children on Ohio to turn away the English Traders from amongst them, and discharge them from ever coming to trade there again, or on any of the Branches, on Pain of incurring his Displeasure, and to enforce that Speech he gave them a very large Belt of Wampum. Immediately one of the Chiefs of the Six Nations got up and made the following answer:

"'Fathers:

"'I mean you that call yourselves our Fathers, hear what I am going to say to you. You desire we may turn our Brothers the English away, and not suffer them to come and trade with us again; I now tell you from our Hearts we will not, for we ourselves brought

them here to trade with us, and they shall live amongst us as long as there is one of us alive. You are always threatning our Brothers what you will do to them, and in particular to that man (pointing to me); now if you have anything to say to our Brothers tell it to him if you be a man, as you Frenchmen always say you are, and the Head of all Nations. Our Brothers are the People we will trade with, and not you. Go and tell your Governor to ask the Onondago Council If I don't speak the minds of all the Six Nations;' and then returned the Belt.

"I paid Cochawitchake the old Shawonese King a visit, as he was rendered incapable of attending the Council by his great age, and let him know that his Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania was glad to hear that he was still alive and retained his senses, and had ordered me to cloathe him and to acquaint him that he had not forgot his strict Attachment to the English Interest. I gave him a Strowd Shirt, Match Coat, and a pair Stockings, for which he gave the Governor a great many thanks!

"May the 22d.—A number of about forty of the Six Nations came up the River Ohio to Logstown to wait on the Council; as soon as they came to Town they came to my House, and after shaking Hands they told me they were glad to see me safe arrived in their Country after my long Journey.

"May the 23d.—Conajarca, one of the Chiefs of the Six Nations, and a Party with him from the Cuscuskie, came to Town to wait on the Council, and congratulated me upon my safe arrival in their Country.

"May the 24th.—Some Warriors of the Delawares came to Town from the Lower Shawonese Town, and brought a Scalp with them; they brought an Account that the Southward Indians had come to the Lower Towns to War, and had killed some of the Shawonese, Delawares, and the Six Nations, so that we might not expect any People from there to the Council.

"May the 25th.—I had a conference with Monsieur Ioncœur; he desired I would excuse him and not think hard of him for the Speech he made to the Indians requesting them to turn the English Traders away and not suffer them to trade, for it was the Governor of Canada's Orders to him, and he was obliged to obey them altho' he was very sensible which way the Indians would receive them, for he was sure the French could not accomplish their designs with the Six Nations without it could be done by Force, which he said he believed they would find to be as difficult as the method they had just tryed, and would meet with the like Success.

"May the 26th.—A Dunkar from the Colony of Virginia came to the Log's Town and requested Liberty of the Six Nation Chiefs to make on the River Yogh-yo-gaine a branch of Ohio, to which the Indians made answer that it was not in their Power to dispose

of Lands; that he must apply to the Council at Onondago, and further told him that he did not take a right method, for he should be first recommended by their Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania, with whom all Publick Business of that sort must be transacted before he need expect to succeed.

"May the 27th.—Mr. Montour and I had a Conference with the Chiefs of the Six Nations, when it was agreed upon that the following Speeches should be made to the Delawares, Shawonese, Owendatts, and Twightwees, when the Provincial Present should be delivered them in the Name of the Honourable James Hamilton, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware, in Conjunction with the Chiefs of the Six United Nations On Ohio:

"*A Treaty with the Indians of the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese, Owendatts and Twightwees,*

"In the Log's Town on Ohio, Thursday the 28th May, 1751.

"PRESENT:

"Thomas Kinton,	Joseph Nelson,	Indian Traders.
"Samuel Cuzzens,	James Brown,	
"Jacob Pyatt,	Dennis Sullavan,	
"John Owens,	Paul Pearce,	
"Thomas Ward,	Caleb Lamb,	

"The Deputies of the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese, Owendatts, and Twightwees;

"Mr. Andrew Montour, Interpreter for the Province of Pennsylvania;

"Toanshiscoe, Interpreter for the Six Nations.

"George Croghan made the following Speech to the several Nations, when they were met in Council, in the Name of the Honourable James Hamilton, Esquire, Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania:

"'Friends and Brethren—

"'I am sent here by your Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania with this Present of Goods to renew the Friendship so long subsisting between Us, and I present you these four strings of Wampum to clear your Minds and open your Eyes and Ears that you may see the Sun clear, and hear what your Brother is going to say to you.'

"Gave 4 Strings of Wampum.

"A Speech delivered the Delawares—in answer to the Speech they sent by Mr. Weiser three Years ago to his Honour the Governor to acquaint him of the Death of their Chief, King Oulamopess—by George Croghan:

"'Brethren the Delawares—

"'Three years ago some of the Chiefs of your Nation sent me a Message by Mr. Weiser to acquaint me of the Death of your King, a man well beloved by his Brethren the English. You told Mr. Weiser that you intended to visit me in order to consult about a new Chief, but you never did it. I have ever since condoled with you for the Loss of so good a Man, and considering the lamentable Condition you were in for want of a Chief I present You this Belt of Wampum and this Present to wipe away your Tears, and I desire you may choose amongst Yourselves one of your wisest Counsellors and present to your Brethren the Six Nations and me for a Chief, and he so chosen by you shall be looked upon by us as your King, with whom Publick Business shall be transacted. Brethren, to enforce this on your Minds I present you this Belt of Wampum.'

"Gave a Belt of Wampum, which was received with the Yo-hah."

"A Speech delivered the Shawonese from the Honourable James Hamilton, Governor of Pennsylvania, by George Croghan:

"'Brethren the Shawonese—

"'Three years ago when some of your Chiefs and some Chiefs of the Six Nations came down to Lancaster with our Brethren the Twightwees, they informed me that your People that went away with Peter Chartier was coming back, and since that I hear that Part of them are returned. I am glad to hear that they are coming home to you again that you may become once more a People, and not as you were dispersed thro' the World. I do not blame you for what happened, for the wisest of People sometimes make mistakes; it was the French that the Indians call their Fathers that deceived You and scattered you about the Woods that they might have it in their Power to keep you poor. Brethren, I assure you by this Present that I am fully reconcil'd and have forgot any thing that you have done, and I hope for the future there will be a more free and open Correspondence between us; and now your Brethren the Six Nations join with me to remove any misunderstanding that should have happened between us, that we may henceforth spend the remainder of our days together in Brotherly Love and Friendship. Now, that this Speech which your Brothers the Six Nations joyn with me in may have its full Force on your minds, I present you this Belt of Wampum.'

"Gave a Belt of Wampum, Which was received with the Yo-hah."

"A Speech delivered the Owendatts, from the Honourable James Hamilton, Governor of Pennsylvania, by George Croghan:

"'Brethren the Owendatts—

"'I receiv'd a Message by the Six Nations and another by Mr. Montour from you, by both which I understand the French, whom

the Indians call their Father, wont let you rest in your Towns in Peace, but constantly threaten to cut you off. How comes this? Are you not a free and independent People, and have you not a Right to live where you please on your own Land, and trade with whom you please? Your Brethren, the English, always considered you as a free Nation, and I think the French who attempt to infringe on your Liberties should be opposed by one and all the Indians or any other Nations that should undertake such unjust proceedings.

"'Brethren:

"'I am sorry to hear of your Troubles, and I hope you and your Brethren the Six Nations will let the French know that you are a free People and will not be imposed on by them. To assure you that I have your Troubles much at heart I present you this Belt and this Present of Goods to cloathe your Families.'

"Gave a Belt of Wampum, which was received with the Yo-hah."

"A Speech delivered the Twightwees from the Honourable James Hamilton, Esquire, Governor Pennsylvania, by George Croghan:

"'Brethren the Twightwees—

"'As you are an antient and renowned Nation I was well pleased when you sent your Deputies now three years ago to sollicit our Alliance; nor did we hesitate to grant you your Request, as it came so warmly recommended to us by our Brethren the Six Nations, Delawares, and Shawonese. At your further Request we ordered our Traders to go amongst you and supply you with Goods at as reasonable rates as they could afford. We understand that in obedience to our Commands our Traders have given you full Satisfaction to your Requests. In one of your Towns about three Months ago Mr. George Croghan likewise informs us that some more of your Tribes earnestly requested to become our Allies. He and Mr. Montour did receive a writing from you Certifying such your Request, and containing your Promises of Fidelity and Friendship, which we have seen and approve of. Brethren: We have recommended it to our Brethren the Six Nations to give you their advice how you should behave in your new Alliance with us, and we expect that you will follow it, that the Friendship now subsisting between Us, the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese, Owendatts, and you, may become as Strong as a great Mountain which the Winds constantly blow against but never overset. Brethren, to assure you of our hearty Inclinations towards you I make you this Present of Goods; and that this Speech which I make you now in Conjunction with the Six Nations may have its full Force on your minds, I present you this Belt of Wampum."

"Gave a Belt, which was received with the Yo-hah."

"A Speech made to the Six United Nations by George Croghan in behalf of the Honourable James Hamilton, Esquire, Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania:

"'Brethren the Six Nations, hear what I am going to say to you. Brethren: it is a great while since we, your Brothers the English, first came over the great Water (meaning the Sea); as soon as our ship struck the Land you the Six Nations took hold of her and tyed her to the Bushes, and for fear the Bushes would not be strong enough to hold her you removed the Rope and tyed it about a great Tree; then fearing the winds would blow the Tree down, you removed the Rope and tyed it about a great Mountain in the Country (meaning the Onondago Country), and since that time we have lived in true Brotherly Love and Friendship together. Now, Brethren, since that there are several Nations joined in Friendship with you and Us, and of late our Brethren the Twightwees: Now, Brethren, as you are the Head of all the Nations of Indians, I warmly recommend it to you to give our Brethren the Twightwees your best advice that they may know how to behave in their New Alliance, and likewise I give our Brethren the Owendatts in charge to you, that you may Strengthen them to withstand their Enemies the French, who I understand treat them more like Enemies than Children, tho' they call themselves their Father.

"'Brethren: I hope we, your Brothers the English, and you the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese, Owendatts, and Twightwees, will continue in such Brotherly Love and Friendship that it will be as strong as that Mountain to which you tyed our Ship. Now, Brethren, I am informed by George Croghan that the French obstruct my Traders and carry away their Persons and Goods, and are guilty of many outrageous Practices, Whereby the Roads are rendered unsafe to travel in, nor can we ask our Traders to go amongst you whilst their Lives and Effects are in such great Danger. How comes this to pass? Don't this proceed from the Pride of Onontio, whom the Indians call their Father, because they don't see his ill Designs? The strong houses you gave him Leave to erect on your Lands serve (As your Brethren the English always told you) to impoverish You and keep your Wives and Children always naked by keeping the English Traders at a Distance, the French well knowing the English sell their Goods cheaper than they can afford, and I can assure You Onontio will never rest while an English Trader comes to Ohio; and indeed if you don't open your Eyes and put a Stop to his Proceedings he will gain his Ends. Brethren: I hope you will consider well what Onontio means or is about to do. To enforce what I have been saying to you on your minds, I present you this Belt of Wampum.'

"Gave a Belt.

"They received this Belt with Yo-hah."

"The Speaker of the Six Nations made the following Speech to Monsieur Ioncœur in open Council; he spoke very quick and sharp with the Air of a Warrior:

"'Father—

"'How comes it that you have broke the General Peace? Is it not three years since you as well as our Brothers the English told Us that there was a Peace between the English and French, and how comes it that you have taken our Brothers as your Prisoners on our Lands? Is it not our Land (Stamping on the Ground and putting his Finger to John Cœur's Nose)? What Right has Onontio to our Lands? I desire you may go home directly off our Lands and tell Onontio to send us word immediately what was his Reason for using our Brothers so, or what he means by such Proceedings, that we may know what to do, for I can assure Onontio that We the Six Nations will not take such Usage. You hear what I say, and that is the Sentiments of all our Nations; tell it to Onontio that that is what the Six Nations said to you.'

"Gave 4 Strings of black Wampum.

"After which the Chief of the Indians ordered the Goods to be divided, and appointed some of each Nation to stand by to see it done, that those that were absent might have a sufficient Share laid by for them.

"After which the Chiefs made me a Speech and told me it was a Custom with their Brothers whenever they went to Council to have their Guns, Kettles, and Hatchets mended, and desired I might order that done, for they could not go home till they had that done. So Mr. Montour and I agreed to comply with their Request, and ordered it done that they might depart well satisfied.

—

"May the 29th, 1751.

"PRESENT:

"Saml. Cousens,	"Joseph Nellson,	Indian Traders.
"John Owens,	"James Brown,	
"Jacob Pyatt,	"Dennis Sullivan,	
"Thomas Ward,		

"The Chiefs of the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese, and Owendatts;

"Mr. Andrew Montour, Interpreter.

"The Beaver, the Speaker of the Delawares, made the following Speech in answer to the Speech made them Yesterday:

"'Brethren, directing his Speech to the Governor of Pennsylvania, We heared what you said Yesterday to us—We thank you for considering our lamentable Condition for want of a Chief—it is true what you told us, we have been like People in the dark, not knowing where to go nor what to do. Now Brother our Hearts are glad, for you have opened our Eyes that we may see the Sun clear, and

you have directed us how to behave—it is good—we will be directed by you our Brothers and do what you bid us—and to assure You our Hearts are ready to receive Your advice we send you those two Strings of Wampum.'

"Gave two Strings.

"He added that as all their wise Men were not gathered together it would take some time to consider on a Man that was fit to undertake to rule a Nation of People, but as soon as possible they would make a full answer, which they hoped would give Satisfaction to their Brothers the English and the Six Nations."

"A Speech received from the Shawonese in answer to the Speech delivered them yesterday;—

"Keeshequeatama, Speaker:

"'Brethren, directing his Speech to the Governor of Pennsylvania, We the Shawonese return You our hearty thanks for the kind Speech You made Yesterday. You have now washed our Eyes and opened our Ears that we may see the Sun clear and hear what You our Brothers will at any time say to us; and we assure You our Brothers the English, our Hearts are all good and true towards You, and we will be ready and willing at any time to hear what you say to us, and will take your advice only; and to assure you of the Truth of what we say we send You those three Strings of Wampum.'

"Gave three Strings."

"A Speech received from the Chiefs of the several Nations, one of the Six Nations Speaker, in answer to the Speeches sent them last Winter by the Governor of Virginia, and delivered them by Mr. Christopher Guest:

"'Brethren, directing their Discourse to the Governor of Virginia: We received Your Messages by your Messenger Mr. Guest, letting us know that our great Father beyond the Seas, not forgetting us his children on this side the great Water, has sent a Present of Goods to your Care for us. We all return you our hearty thanks for your care in sending us word so soon as you did. Now, Brother, we expect You will consider that we are a poor People and at War with the Southward Indians, and don't know but some of our Nations may soon be struck by the French, so that it is not in our Power to go down to hear what our great Father has to say to us; But our Brothers of Pennsylvania have kindled a Council Fire here, and we expect you will send our Father's Speeches to us here, for we long to hear what our great Father the King of Great Britain has to say to us his poor children. Brother, that this Speech may have its full Effect on your mind, we send you these four Strings of Wampum.'

"Gave 4 Strings."

"A Speech made by the Commissioners of the Owendatts sent to

the Council by that Nation to receive what Speeches their Brothers the English had brought them;—

"The Great Arrow Speaker:

"'Brothers: We have heard what you said Yesterday to our Nation; we return you our hearty thanks for the care of us and our People; but as we are not impowered to give a full answer we desire to be excused at this time; but upon our Return home we will call a Council, and then our Brothers may expect a suitable answer to the kind Speeches they have sent us. I hope our Brother the Governor will accept those four Strings of Wampum till they get a fuller answer.'

"Gave four Strings.

"A Speech received from the Six Nations, the Speaker directed his Discourse to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

"Tawago,
"Conajarca,
"Torasoughko,
"Counestraho,
"Contughgua,
} Six Nation Chiefs.
"Toanohiso, Speaker.

"'Brother:

"'We, your Brethren the Six Nations, have heard what You said to us Yesterday; we thank You for your good advice, and you may depend on our giving our new Brethren the Twightwees our best advice; and we will have them and the Owendatts always under our Eyes as well as the Delawares and Shawonese, that we may all become as one People, which is the way to be as strong on Ohio as that Mountain which you mention in your Speech, which is the Onondago Country. Brother: as to what you mention of the Traders being taken by the French, we, your Brethren the Six Nations, have a true sense of the ill usage you have received from the French; and we can assure you we will take a Method to oblige the French to make Satisfaction. Brother: we have discharged the French from amongst us; and told them that they should not build upon our Land. Now, Brothers, we have been considering what the French mean by their Behaviour, and believe they want to cheat us out of our Country, but we will stop them, and Brother You must help us. We expect that you our Brother will build a strong House on the River Ohio, that if we should be obliged to engage in a War that we should have a Place to secure our Wives and Children, likewise to secure our Brothers that come to trade with us, for without our Brothers supply us with Goods we cannot live. Now, Brothers, we will take two Months to consider and choose out a Place fit for that Purpose, and then we will send You word. We hope Brothers as soon as you receive our Message you will order such a House to be

built. Brothers: that you may consider well the necessity of building such a Place of Security to strengthen our arms, and that this, our first Request of that kind may have a good effect on your minds, we send you this Belt of Wampum.'

"Gave a Belt."

"A Speech made by the Six Nations in behalf of the Twightwees, as none of them were present:

"'Brethren—

"'We your Brothers, the Six Nations, received your Message to the Twightwees and the Present, which we assure you we will deliver them safe, and we will join you and make a Speech to them to let them understand that we will put our Hands on their Heads, so that if any nation strikes them our Fingers must be cut off before they are hurt; we hope this Speech with the Present will have its desired Effect on the minds of our new Brethren, so that we may all become united as one People.'

"Gave two Strings of Wampum."

"May the 30th. I took my leave of the Chiefs of the several Nations, when I made each of them some small Presents reserved for that Purpose by Mr. Montour and myself; they wished me a good Journey home, and desired they might be remembered to their Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania and all the wise Counsellors, and desired me to assure them that they would always observe what their Brothers the English would tell them."

—

Copy of a Letter sent to the Governor by Mr. George Croghan, with the above Treaty:

"PENNSBORO', June 10th, 1751.

"'May it please your Honour:

"'Inclosed is a Copy of the Treaty held on Ohio by your Honour's Instructions on delivering your Honour's Present to the several Nations of Indians Residing there. I hope your Honour on perusing the Proceedings of the Treaty will find that I have observed your Honour's Instructions in every Speech that I delivered from your Honour. I took all the Pains I could to make the Present have its full Force and Weight with the Indians, and I have the Pleasure of assuring your Honour that the Indians were all unanimously well pleased at your Honour's Speeches, and likewise acknowledged it was a great Present, and the Chiefs of the Six Nations took great Pains with me in dividing it amongst the other nations, that it might have its full force with them, which I assure your Honour it had, for every man I saw there was well satisfied with his share of the Present; the Indians in general expressed a high Sat-

isfaction at having the Opportunity in the Presence of Ioncœur of expressing their hearty Love and Inclinations towards the English, and likewise to assure your Honour what Contempt they had for the French, which your Honour will see by the Speeches they made. Ioncœur-Ioncœur has sent a Letter to your Honour, which I enclose here. Mr. Montour has exerted himself very much on this occasion, and as he is not only very capable of doing the Business, but look'd on amongst all the Indians as one of their Chiefs, I hope your Honour will think him worth notice, and recommend it to the Assembly to make him full Satisfaction for his Trouble, as he has employed all his Time in the Business of the Government. I hope your Honour will recommend it to the Government of Virginia to answer the Speech sent them now in answer to their own Speech sent last Fall, as soon as possible. May it please your Honour, I make bold to send down my Account against the Province for what Wampum I delivered Mr. Montour to make the Speeches last Fall and this Spring, delivered by your Honour's Instructions. Mr. Montour is at my House and will wait on your Honour when you Please to appoint the time. I hope what has been transacted at this Treaty will be pleasing to your Honour, as I am sure the Present had its full Force, and shall defer any farther Account till you have the opportunity of examining Mr. Montour.

"'I am your Honour's most obedient, humble Servant,

"'GEORGE CROGHAN.'

—

A Letter to Governor Hamilton from Ioncaire.

"De Chininque, Le 6 de Juin, 1751.

"Monsieur:

"Monsieur Le Marquis de Lajonquierre, Gouverneur de toute la nouvelle France, mayant Honore de ses ordres pour Veiller ace que les Anglois, ne fassait aucune Traitte dans le Continant de la belle Rivierre, J'ay signifiez aux negotiants de votre Gouvernementde se Retirer.

"Vous nignorez pas Monsieur que toutes les Terres de ce Continant, out de tout Temp appartenuau Roy de France, et que les Anglois nont aucun droit pour y venir faire leurs Commerce.

"Mon General ma or donnez de vous donner avis de ce que J'ay fais afin que vous nen puissiez pretendre cause d'ignorance, et il ma donne cet ordre avec d'autant plus de Raison, quil y ait deux ans, Monsieur de Celoron pard ordre de Monsieur de Lagalissonnierre alors Commandant General somma plusieur negotiant Anglois qui faisoient La Traitte avec les Sauvages de la belle Rivierre, ce quils firent et luy promirent de ne plus revenir traitter sur ces Terres ce

que Mr de Celoron vous Ecrivit En consequence de ce qui powroit arrive.

"J'ay L'Honneur destre avec Respect, Monsieur,

"Votre tres humble et tres oblissant Serviteur,

"IONCARE,

"*Lieutenant du Detachement de la Marinne.*"

"*Mr. Weiser's Journal of his Proceedings at Onondago.*

"1751—June 27th.—Arrived in Albany; the thirtieth following the Indians arrived, several of the Chiefs came to see me that very day, and all the Indians being impatient to hear my Message, the fifth of July I went to his Excellency the Governor of New York to ask leave to deliver my Messagge. I had not the Honour to see his Excellency, but one Mr. Askew carried my request to him, who brought back answer to wit, that his Excellency must have it in writing in order to lay it before the Council. I told Mr. Askew that I could say no more to the Indians than what was contained in my Instructions; the Governor wanted to see them. I sent them immediately; after they were read in Council they were returned to me and I was told that the Governor wanted to speak to me sometime in the afternoon. Accordingly in the afternoon I was sent for; when I came to the Governor Mr. Golding was with him; his Excellency was pleased to tell me that he wanted to speak to the Indians that morning, but they were somewhere else engaged, he did not know where; then required me not to speak to the Indians before he had done with them, and that I must give him in writing what I would say to them. I made answer that I had it in charge not to speak to the Indians without his Excellencie's approbation and Foreknowledge, and had nothing else to say than what was contained in my Instructions (which I shewed again) then in my Hand, as for the Indians coming to see me I could not lock up my door upon them; I did not care to offend them; his Excellency replied that he would not have me to offend the Indians, and so dismissed me for that time.

"July the 9th.—Waited on his Excellency again to obtain leave to deliver my Message, was told that as soon as the Catabaws had their answer I should.

"July the 10th.—His Excellency gave me Leave to deliver my Message. I acquainted the Indians accordingly and they met me that Evening at my Lodging, and as on such Occasions some particular Ceremonies are used, I employed Canachquaieson, an Oneider Chief, to perform them for me; he was but the other day employed by Friend Stephans, the Interpreter for New York Government, on the same Occasion.

"After most of the Indians met Canachquaieson stood up and begg'd me to walk up and down the Floor and to sing Lamentation Songs in very melancholy Time, which he continued till all were met, and some time after in the Song mention was made of the Person or Persons for which he mourned, and their virtue praised.

"Then he told the Indians that the Governor of Pennsylvania had sent Tharachiawagon with a Message to the Six United Nations, which wou'd now be delivered to them, and that what would be now said to them was the very words of the Governor and the People of Pennsylvania. A String of Wampum was given.

"The Speaker, Canachquaieson, being before informed of my whole Message, I only repeated the Beginning and gave him a Belt of Wampum, he then went on and said:

"'Brethren, The Six United Nations.—The Governor of Pennsylvania was but the last year informed of the Death of several of the Chiefs of the Six United Nations, dying in their way homewards from Philadelphia, and of the Death of Canassatego and Silgo Wan Ackly, who both died since their Arrival at their own Town.

"'The Governor of Pennsylvania was very sorry to hear of the Death of those his goods Friends and Brethren, has, therefore, sent Tharachiawagon to the Council Fire at Onondago with a Present to signify to the Council of the Six United Nations that himself and the People of Pennsylvania condole with them on the Loss of such valuable Persons, and hath sent that Present to wipe off their Tears.' Eight Pieces of Strowds were laid before them, and a String of Wampum given. A Piece of Strowds was delivered in particular (on the Death of Canassatego) to the Onondagers. *Item;* Seven Strowd Matchcoats on the Death of Cunjaquoa, a noted Warrior among the Mohocks, killed by the French in the late War in his Majestie's Service.

"*Item;* Six Strowd Matchcoats on the Death of a Son of Cayenquarachton, a Sinicker Chief, who was killed after the same manner.

"Songs of Lamentation being sung by Canachquaieson on the Death of these two great warriors, who had made a Sacrifice of their Lives for the Common Cause and in obedience to his Majesty King George.

"The Indians appeared well pleased and looked upon the Present to be a large one on such an Occasion. The Indians had a Consultation together for a good while about an answer. I understood that they were at a Loss for some Skins to send as a present to the Governor of Pennsylvania to wipe off his and his People's Tears over the Death of Canassatego & others. I gave them to understand that they need not stop for that at this time, that I would excuse them in the best manner I could with the Governor and People of Pennsylvania, as I knew they had parted with what they had on other occasions, and I gave them further to understand that at a

certain Hour that night I must go on board the only vessel that was left, and stay'd on purpose to take me in by the time of high water, to which they consented.—The Governor of New York and his Council and other Gentlemen being all gone that Afternoon.

"Then Abraham, a Mohock Chief, stood up and returned thanks in the best manner he could, and said a great deal of the Satisfaction this Present gave them, and that they took it as a fresh token of the Brotherly Love of the Governor and People of Pennsylvania towards the Six United Nations, and desired me to return thanks in their behalf to the Governor and People of Pennsylvania in the best I could, and gave a String of Wampum.

"By another String of Wampum he said, 'Brother Tharachiawagon we thank you for this visit, we will take care of your Son, we look upon him as one of our own children, we will use our best Endeavour to learn him to speak our Language well, we are very glad you brought him to us as to your Town, it shows that you retain the same Love as you did formerly to us.'

"The Indians expressed in general a good deal of Satisfaction and shook hands with Sammy Weiser and Daniel Clause, to signify to them that they received them kindly; So the Business ended.

"CONRAD WEISER."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Friday the 16th August, 1751.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Richard Peters, Conrad Weiser, } Esquires | Andrew Montour, Five Nantycoke Indians.

Four Nantycoke Indians arrived in Town from Wyomen on Sasquehanna, and having informed the Governor that they had some Business with him he appointed them to come to him this day.

After the usual Salutations one of them spoke as follows:

"Brother, the Governor of Pennsylvania—

"In the beginning of this Year one of the Nantycokes was committed to Prison at Lancaster for abusing a White Girl, one of your children, but after he had been there some time you very graciously at our earnest Request set him at Liberty. We are desirous to remove all Resentment out of your Hearts for this abuse, which caused us to shed many Tears, and this String of Wampum is given you to remove from your hearts all ill will to us on that account."

A String.

"Brother:

"Now that there remains no ill will to us in your heart, we can

Sp. Barbery

Boston August 14th 1751

D.S. The Lieut. Governor has appointed Commissioners to
Goe to Georges to treat with the Indians & Instructed & appointed
Indian Goods getting ready all the Rangers & Soldiers in Garrison
to goe in Capt Sanders & I hope shall take Passage in
him by the Guardians that may come to your assistance
Those Commissioners arrive with you I desire you to
to Provide Provisions for the Passage & Subsistance of
Your hands, endeavour to get as many of the Indians
the several Indian nations to be with the Governor
as Possible you can, we have reason to expect some
Good Advantage for Peace & hope to be able
Goods Ammunition &c
Booty & Prize Commissioners gave them an Invitation
upon the Passage out from Lyn Albany, and I cannot
Part with you till we all go & account. Wherefore all in
Your Power to get the Indians together as soon as you can
And to as all in Your Power to Provide for the Service
wherein You will Greatly Oblige

Your Excellencies Most Obedient

Jacob Wendell

P.S. If the Indians are not come when
You receive this, you are desired to
Send for them to come down as
Soon as Possible may Commodore
Lord Mascarene comes with us to
Appear for Governour Cornwallis of
Nova Scotia Going Appointed Capt. Service

Wm Tyngs Esq. Lieut. Govern. & Comand. in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England. To all unto whom these Presents shall come Greeting.

Whereas there was a Treaty appointed by his Excellency the Hon. George Clinton Esq. Govern. of the Province of New York & the City in the month of May of June Instant between the said Govern. & the Six Nations of Indians adhering to the Interest & Friendship of the said Province of New York & the said Govern. of his Majesty's said Province of New York & the said Six Nations of Indians at Albany in the Province of New York & whereas the said Govern. of New York hath invited his Govern. with others of his Majesty's Govern. in North America to join in the said Treaty with them in the said City of Albany, for renewing Friendship with the said Six Nations & effectually securing their Attachment to his Majesty's Interest

Know ye therefore that by & with the Advice of the General Court of the said Province of the Massachusetts Bay I do hereby constitute & appoint Samuel Wendell, Joseph Dwight & Oliver Partridge Esq.rs (or any two of them) Commissr. for & in behalf of the said Province to attend at Albany or in any other Place where such Treaty shall be held; there & then to act in Conjunction with the Commissr. of his Majesty's Govern. of New York & the Commissr. from the other Govern.

1811
together with the Governr. or Commissioners from the other
English British Governmt. the which shall appear at the said Treaty
to confer & treat with the said Indians of the Six Nations, & other
Indians bordering on the Governmt. of New York & to renew
friendship with them & effectually secure their Attachmt. to
his Majesty, & to assist in & assert his Majesty, Govr. of New
York) to hold separate Conferences with the said Indians upon
any Matter that may require the same; and the said Commrs.
above named are hereby required strictly to observe the
Instructions herewith delivered and shew of such other
Instructions or from time to time shall be given them
by the Gen. Assembly of this Province

Given under my Hand & the Seal of the Province
of the Massachusetts Bay aforesaid

Boston Comm. to Gov.
May 15 Pelham
1751

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Them & there to consult with such Indians Chiefs or others as may be duly
Impowered by y respective Tribes with this Government as also the Indians
of St Francis, St Johns & Cagnawaga Tribes if any of those Tribes shall
appear duly impowered as aforesaid; and to conclude upon
& agree concluded upon & agreed with the said Indians & Delegates
respecting all such Matters as you shall judge necessary for Confirming & establishing the Treaty aforesaid, according to the Instructions herewith delivered you & such other Instructions as
you may receive from me at the same or any future time respecting the Matters aforesaid
that for the Peace & Friendship

Given &c. Sealed &c.

By His Excellency's Command

Symonds Thipp, esq.r Lieut. Gover.r & Commander in
Chief of his Majesty, Province of the Massachusetts Bay in
New England, To Jacob Wendell, Dan.l Fitch Watts
& Thomas Hubbard esqrs Greeting, Whereas at the Desire
of the Council & House of Represent.rs in the Last & present
& General Court assembled & have appointed
Treaty
Commissioners effectually to treat with the Sagamores
& Chief Indians of the Penobscot & Norridgewock Indians
& Norridgewock Indians, and Eastern Indians of any other
Tribe that appear at the said Treaty in Order to the Good
of Peace and Quiet made between his Govern.t & the said Tribes,
And whereas the Indians of the said Penobscot
made have agreed to treat with his Govern.t at the
Fort at St. Georges, River, or any other Place that may
Confiding therefore in your Loyalty Prudence & Ability
do by these Presents constitute & appoint you the said Jac.b
Wendell, Dan.l Watts & Thos. Hubbard Jointly & severally
to be Commissr.s in behalf of his Govern.t to Convene at the
aforesaid
all Circumstances to be most suitable for Holding the said
Convention or Treaty

From Cadwallader Colden to Dr. John Mitchell

[Unsigned copy in Colden's handwriting]

Aug 17th 1751

To Dr Mitchel

The memorial of the Indian Affairs, which I drew up at our Governors desire & which I believe he designs for the Board of Trade, has run out into so great length, that I was affrayed of adding any particulars for proof, tho' I believed that they would much confirm my reasoning on this subject. But as you have frequent opportunities of conversing with some of that board, I think it may be of use to add them by way of Appendix, to the Copy of that Memorial, which I now send you; that, if you think the knowlege of them may be of Service, you may make what use of them you shall think proper.

Several years Since & some years before Mr Clintons apointment So many of the far Indians came to the Trading house at Oswego at one time, That most of the goods were sold, when a number of a very distant nation came to trade there. Among other things they wanted a quantity rum. One Nichalas Schuyler a Brother in a noted & principal family at Albany, undertook to supply them, which is allwise don in small caggs, containing from two to three Gallons, for the conveniency of Transportation. The Indians, when they carry rum home to their own habitations, never touch it while they are upon the road, knowing their own weakness, that if they once begin to drink, they cannot forbear, so long as any remains. This man knowing this to be the custom of Indians, which they firmly adhere to, filled the Cags with water & only dipped the linnen rags in rum, which were round the Rings to keep them tight. He was in no apprehensions of a discovery, as these Indians were to travil 3 or 400 miles, before they reached home. But on their way, they met with a number of men of another Nation, in amity with them, & resolving to treat them with some of their rum, broached a Cag, which being found to con-

tain only Water, without a single drop of Rum, they examined the others, & found them all alike, the Indians returned with Anger & resentment to Oswego. The Commanding officer made them some reparation, & did what he could to appease them; & as this gross cheat was like to be of great prejudice to the Trade, he acquainted the Governor with it, who, by advice of Council, ordered the Kings Attorney to prosecute Nicholas Schuyler for a cheat. A New Assembly happened to be soon called, Nicholas Schuyler was elected a member.

The Attorney General was prevailed with to drop the Prosecution, & Schuyler's family having a considerable interest in the Assembly, the Govr thought proper to wink at it.

Since Govr Clinton's administration, & while the Assembly took to themselves the apointment of all officers for extraordinary Services, this Nicholas Schuyler was apointed by them to build the Fort at Sarahtoga. This he performed in as shamefull a manner as any thing of the kind was ever don, & yet this man was paid his full demands, while at the same time the Assembly refused to repay money bona fide advanced in the public service, by persons imployed by the Governor.

Another remarkable instance to shew how the Indians are cheated is as follows One David Schuyler was in Jail at Albany, on an Execution for a debt, if I remember right, of about 200 pounds As the Schuyler family, & this man in particular, had gained an Interest & friendship among the Indians, he escaped from Jail, & fled to the Mohawks, who protected him against the Sheriff; but at the same time told the Sheriff, that neither he nor Schuylers Creditors should suffer by the Protection which they gave to Schuyler: for they were resolved to give him as much land, as by the sale of it, would pay his debts, & likewise a sufficient quantity for a farm for himself & family, to live on, which was accordingly honestly performed on the part of the Indians. But in taking the Deed Schuyler framed boundaries so as to take in ten times the quantity of land, that the Indians intended to

give him, & even to include in it, the land on which their Village was built, & the land which they then planted, which was some of the best low lands in the Province. This was don by the advice of one of the richest men in the Province, & with whom the Indian affairs were more particularly intrusted by the Gov^{t} by whose Interest the Kings Patent was obtained, confirming the land to the Persons who had thus grossly cheated the Indians. The Business of my office of Surveyor Genl of Lands called me into the Mohawks Country, in a few years after this happened, & as I had Business then with the Indians, in relation to lands, I desired this David Schuyler to assist, believing that he would be of use to me, from the account I had received of this particular Kindness the Indians had don him & I made use of him on several occasions as an Interpreter. On several accidental meetings that I had with some of the Sachems, they made long Speeches to me with an unusual vehemence, while this man was present. But when these Speeches were interpreted to me, I was told they contained only complements on seeing me in their Country. I sent to the Castle to apoint a day to meet their Sachems together, on some business I had to impart to them; but the evening before I was to meet them some malicious person sent some rum into the Castle, so that when I came the next morning, though they made me in all appearance very wellcome, I found them all drunk. I therefor resolved not to stop but proceeded on about ten miles farther. I had then about 20 men in Company with me, I was in the Front & this David Schuyler in the rear, when, at some distance from the Indian Village, I heard a cry of Murder A young Indian fellow, who was not drunk, came up, with his knife in his hand, to David Schuyler, & threatned him. After some time they got the Indian so far pacified that he went away. Schuyler immediatly came up & rode near me, when a little while after the same Indian came from the Woods on horse back, with his knife in his hand, & stopt Schuyler a second time. I then directed the Interpreter to ask the Indian, how he came to have

the insolence to disturb me on the high way or to threaten any in my Company. I believe his answer was not truely interpreted to me. I order'd him to give up his knife, on which he immediatly took hold of it by the point, & offer'd the handle to me, & then went away

The next morning two of the Sachems came to the place where I lodged, to excuse, as they said, the rudeness I had met with. The young Indian they said had no design of disrespect to me, but that he could not bear to see that rogue David Schuyler in my company. After which they told me how basely & villainously they had been cheated by him. On which, I told Schuyler I thought the Indians had so great a kindness for you, that I believed you would have been of use to me, but since I find it otherwise, you must return home. On which he cry'd out O Lord! I dare not. They will murder me. I got the Sachems to promise they would conduct him safe to his own house, & he left me.

Then they gave me a particular account of their kindness to him, & of his Treachery as before related, & added that they had enter'd a formal complaint of this matter to the Commiss^{rs} of Indian affairs, with a large belt, but could obtain no answer, & desired my assistance for redress. While I was among them they treated me with all the Confidence that any People could do As they are honest themselves, they naturally think others to be so, till they find themselves abused by them. For this reason they have more confidence in the English & in the Germans, than in the low dutch, whom they heartily despise.

When I returned to New York I laid a Memorial before the Govr & Council, relating the abuses committed in the purchase of lands from the Indians, & proposed rules to be observed in future purchases, to prevent the like frauds: which were agreed to by the Council, & ordered accordingly

I have given these two particular instances, from among thousands that may be given, of the Treatment the Indians meet with from Christians: & at the same it will in some measure, shew of what sort of men our

assemblies are composed, who endeavour to assume to themselves the whole executive powers of Government.

I shall add a third One named Bratt[1] of the County of Albany was two years since at Oswego he there stole an Indian boy of about 12 year old from a Missisague Indian his father who was there tradeing One of that Nation which in time of the last war left the French & joined with us Bratt sent the Boy to Albany On complaint of this abuse by the commanding officer at Oswego the Govr by advice of Council directed the Magistrats at Albany to enquire into it & that if they found it as represented that the boy should be restored to his Father but nothing was don till this summer when the Govr was at Albany The Facts were fully proved before the Govr & Council by persons who were at Oswego when this was don & likewise that the Indians resented the injury so much that they threatned to make reprisals by falling upon the Christians Then By order of Council the Boy was taken from Bratt & sent to Oswego there to be delivered to his Father and Bratt was ordered to be prosecuted in the Supreme Court at the Kings suit The People of Albany exclaimed against this order of Council as Tyrannical & Arbitrary & so will every order be called that restrains them from cheating the Indians

CADWALLADER COLDEN

From Mrs. Peter De Lancey

WEST CHESTER Octr 29th 1751

D^{r} S^{r}

I had the favour of yours by the Post this morning & am glad to find you intend me ye pleasure of another visit & that I shall see my Brother also. I hope I may not be disapointed I shall long to know Sir that you have a confirmation of the account you mention, which is al-

[1] Johannes Bradt. *Cf. Cal. Council Minutes*, 375, 378, 379, 381.

Aug.st 1751.

The present State of the Indian Affairs with the British and French Colonys in North America, with some observations thereon, for securing the fidelity of the Indians to the Crown of Great Britain, & promoting Trade among them.

In obedience to your Excellency's Commands I have collected the informations we have received, relating to the Indian Affairs with the English & French Colonies, and put them in such order, as from thence their true State at this time may be put in the clearest light. For this purpose it is necessary to go so far back, as the time your Excellency engaged the Six Nations in the Expedition intended against Canada in the year 1746. Your Excellency no doubt remembers in what disposition the Six Nations where then, what influence the French had gained among them, & how the Commissioners at that time for Indian Affairs, in this Province, had, even by their own confession, lost all influence among the Indians. That at that time Mr. Johnson distinguished himself among the Indians by his undefatigable pains among them, & by his compliance with their humours in his Drift & Conversation with them. That he was the Chief Instrument, under your Excellency in persuading them to enter into the War against the French: but that it was principally effected by the very large Presents publickly made to them, by your Excellency at that time, & continued thro' Mr. Johnsons hands from time to time till the peace was concluded, & for sometime afterwards. The Commissioners for Indian Affairs having lost all influence on the Indians your Excellency found it necessary to commit the whole conduct of Indian Affairs to Mr. Johnson, with a Commission of Colonel to command them: being furnished with larger sums for this Service by the Crown, with a Colonels pay for himself, he made a great figure, & gained more influence among the Indians than any Person before him, (so far as I have learned) ever did. and it is no wonder, since he had advantages much greater than any one before him ever had. The ascendency which he had gained over the Indians, appeared, by his being able to prevent their sending to Canada to confirm the peace, and to exchange their Prisoners, as before this time they had always done, & in their trusting entirely to your Excellency for the recovery of their People, who were detain'd Prisoners in Canada; by which they gave the French an undoubted proof that they looked on themselves as subject to the Crown of Great Britain. The allowance for Indian Affairs from the Crown being stopt on the conclusion of the peace, & the Assembly refusing to grant so much as the usual allowances made to the Commissioners for Indian Affairs in time of Peace, Coll.o Johnson found himself disabled to carry them on, without great prejudice to his private fortune: and if he had gone on in the

expensive manner to which he had accustomed the Indians might have ruined his fortune.

Coll. Johnson being discouraged by the want of the necessary supplies, desired his dismission from this Service, & at last without your Excellency's privity, sent a Belt round all the Nations, whereby he informed them, that he no longer took care of their affairs. This was a very odd step, such as nothing of the kind had ever been done before; and occasioned extraordinary speculations among the Indians, of which it is supposed the French Emissaries took advantage.

The Commission for Indian Affairs had been for many years past intrusted with the Dutch at Albany. The last Commissioners had joined openly with the faction in the Assembly, in opposition to the Administration & the Govr. measures; & they were, on the other hand remarkably favoured by that faction in the Representations & Remonstrances published by that house. Their spirit assisted each other in infusing prejudices in the minds of the People to your Excellency's Administration.

The Commissioners were influenced by two motives, first by resentment, for the loss of that Authority which they had so long possessed, and, this resentment was increased by its being put into the hands of an Englishman, whom the Dutch look on as Intruders into their Patrimony. The other was the loss the Commissioners thereby sustained in their private or personal Trade, or at least imagined that they did; for as the Indians, when they came first to Albany, go first to the Commissioners, they thereby gain a preference in the buying of furs; and likewise make use of the Money allowed them for Presents to the Indians in drawing the Indians to Trade with them, preferably to others, this is evident, by the Interest the Traders make, to be put into that Commission, which otherwise could have no profit attending it, but by the method here suppos'd. Col. Johnson is the most considerable Trader with the Western Indians, & sends more Goods to Oswego than any other person does, the People of Albany imagined that his having the Conduct of the Indian Affairs gave him great advantages, for as he lives near the Mohawk Castle, & near forty Miles West from Albany all the six Nations and other Indians to the Westward stop at his House and were there supplied, and from that time few or none were sent to Albany. This touched a People in the most sensible part who have no other view but that of getting Money.

When the War broke out, the Contractors for supplying the Garrison at Oswego refused to continue their Contracts unless a very considerable allowance were made them for Escorts and other extraordinary Expences. Col. Johnson undertook it & supplyed a double Garrison at Oswego by advancing the Money on the faith of the Assembly. He advanced Money for several other Publick Expences, by which a very large sum of Money became due to him from this Province.

The faction in the Assembly took a method in favour of their friends at Albany which had been often practiced even with Governors themselves, to endeavour them to comply with the humours of an Assembly to the prejudice of the prerogative; &

tho' in itself the most ingenerous, that can be well imagined, yet had always proved effectual, because no private singleman was able to hold out against it. It was this the Assembly, under various pretences, delayed or refused the payment of the Sums, which Col. Johnson had advanced for the Service of the Government, sometimes by directing the payment to be made out of funds, which they themselves knew to be exhausted, & by the Treasurer (who is the Assemblys creature) his giving preference to Warrants payable to others tho' of a posterior Date, and by the Assembly's Arbitrarily cutting off some part of his accounts, tho' they were proved in the manner the Assembly directs. This they did without mentioning what Articles were disallowed or giving him any opportunity of proving them, or assigning any reason why they were disallowed * by these means near two thousand pounds of the Money which he has advanced, remains still due to him: and this without his charging any thing as a Salary or reward for his Services, or any Interest for the Money now several years due to him. After such usage it could not be expected, that Col. Johnson would go on in the service of the Government by advancing Money for that Service, on the Credit of the Assembly, while the Assembly not only refused to grant funds as was usual for those Services, but refused to pay what was already due.

The Act, by which the Garrison at Oswego is supported by a Duty on all Rum & Stroud sold to the Indians, is contrived in such manner, that the conscientious and fair Trader may be easily entangled & brought under difficulties, while the fraudulent Dealer may gain great advantages over him, & the Collectors for those Duty's have it in their power to favour their friends, & distress those they dislike. The Collectors have been so far favoured by the faction in the Assembly that tho' they have for several years paid nothing of the produce of those Duties as the Act directs into the Treasury, they have never been called to an account for the same. And the Six Nations complain heavily, the Mohawks especially, who live intermixed with the Planters, that they must pay so much more for Rum & Stroud than their Neighbours do. There is reason to think, that all the Stroud sent to Canada is exempted from this Duty whereby the French gain a great advantage over the English fair Trader for these Goods sold to Frenchmen is not subjected to the Duty whereby the French are enabled to sell the Goods, which they buy at Albany, cheaper to the Indians, than the English can do at Oswego.

But the greatest discouragement in the management of Indian Affairs is by the Indians being constantly cheated by them with whom they deal. This is a mischief that has been long complained of, & unless some Law were passed for the preventing of it, I know not how it can be remedied. For as the Law now stands, an Indian before he can obtain redress must fee a Lawyer, must take out a Writt,

* See Minutes of Council at Albany in July last & Col. Johnson's Memorial to His Excellency.

file a Declaration, & at last wait twelve Months at two or three hundred Miles distance sometimes five hundred from his habitation, & without one farthing to support him or to defray the Charges of the Suit for Justice, and then his Evidence is not admitted in any of our Courts, nor the Evidence of any other Indian. Can these People who are treated in this manner be supposed to be under the protection of the King of Great Britain, or can they be supposed to be treated like friends or like rational or humane Creatures? It is but too obvious what the consequences of this treatment must be.

As the Government hath no funds for giving Salaries to those who have the Care of the Indian Affairs they are generally left to the discretion of the Traders with the Indians who pretend to act without reward & as they are divided into one Sett who Trade at Canada, & another who Trade at Oswego or directly with the Indians, these two Setts are influencing the Indians in opposition to each other, in order to defeat the measures which the other takes. The several Colonies likewise have different and separate Interests, which they severally regard more than the common Interests of the whole. Thus Massachusetts Bay are at this time endeavouring to draw the Mohawks to settle on their frontiers, for their Security, and the People of Pennsylvania are endeavouring to draw them to the frontiers of Pennsylvania, & none of them will unite in furnishing a common Stock for the welfare of the whole.

The Assembly, since the year 1746 have neglected to give the usual annual Supplies for the expence attending the management of the Indian Affairs, 'till this Last year, when they gave a Sum for Presents to the Indians & that only after the repeated accounts receive of the dissatisfaction the Indians has expressed, of their being totally neglected, since the conclusion of the peace. But surely no great matters can be expected, from what can be done in eight or Ten days time at such interviews with the Governor when at all other times they are neglected. Thus it appears that the Government of New York was entirely disabled from taking the usual or any care of the Indians affairs, from the conclusion of the peace to the Spring of the Year 1751. by the Assembly's refusing to grant the usual Supplies for that Service, & by their distressing Col. Johnson with whom those affairs were intrusted.

The Governor in the conduct of the Indian Affairs, is under a double disadvantage, the Assembly will grant no Supplies for the usual Expence of Commiss.rs for that Service unless the creatures of the faction be appointed, & who by their past Conduct appear no way proper to be intrusted, & on the other hand Col. Johnson, by the large Sums allowed him for that Service in time of War, & by something in his natural Temper, suited to the Indian humour, has gained such an ascendancy over them that they insist on his continuing, & will be dissatisfied with any other appointment, as fully appears by the Minutes of what passed at Albany in the last meeting

with the Indians. Both seem to have in view in opposition to each other to make it impracticable to carry on the Indian Affairs, unless the one be separately employed exclusive of the other, & thereby the Governor is disabled to employ either or any other.

I shall next observe on what has been done by the French in Canada in the same time. Tho' the gaining the Indians, the preserving them in their fidelity, the keeping them in readiness to join our forces on the Expedition intended against Canada, & the sending out parties of Indians against Canada, was attended with a greater expence, than had ever been incurred on the like service before, yet we were assured by the French Officers, who came from Canada after the peace on the exchange of Prisoners, that the Government of Canada was at a much greater expence on account of the Indians they employed than we were. Every Indian employed by them occasioned an expence, they said, that could not be credited. The power of the British Colonies is so much superior to that of the French, that they could have no hopes of coping with us, in any regular Attack, with regular Troops or Militia, & consequently had no other method of making War but by incursions of their Indians, & which they were — therefore under a necessity of procuring at any rate.

The same reasons lay them under a necessity of endeavouring by all means to enlarge & spread their influence among the numerous Nations on the great Continent; and as they could not fail of being apprized of the difficulties the administration in this Government laboured under, they thought it the most proper time to redouble their endeavours, believing that no time could be more proper for an extraordinary expence than this, in order to carry their purposes.

With these views they from time to time sent some of the Cahnuaga Indians among the Six Nations, to excite them to make incursions on the Southern Indians in Amity with South Carolina with whom the Six Nations & Cahnuagas both had been at War beyond the memory of any man living: thereby to weaken the Indians, who depend on the English Colonies and are faithful to them by setting them on to destroy one another.

The Mississaques an Indian Nation who formerly lived to the Northward of the Lake Huron, & traded with the French, joined with the Six Nations in declaring War against Canada. After the peace the Governor of Canada resolved to make this Nation sensible of his resentment, & incited the Ottawawas to join him in making War on the Mississaques this obliged them to leave their Country, & come to settle near the Senekas on the East side of Lake Erie & as the Mississaques have received no support or protection from the English any other Nation must be deterred from following the example of the Mississaques in joining hereafter with the English.

A considerable number of Indians, originally of several Nations formerly living near Hudson's River, Delaware & Susquehanna & several of the Six Nations settled near the head of a branch of the Mississippi, called Ohio by the French, & Allegheny by the People of Pennsylvania, with whom a considerable Trade is carried on from

Pennsylvania, & they are in hopes of bringing the Twightwees a considerable Nation on the same branch more Westerly, to join with them & the Six Nations in confederacy. In order to defeat this Union; the Governor of Canada sent a body of regular Troops, with a number of Indians to draw off these Indians from the English Interest, by force if it could not be done otherwise? But when the French came, they found themselves too weak to attempt any thing by force. Twere only able to disturb the English Trade, by sending some of their Indians to surprise the English Traders, as they were upon their Journey. Which at several times the French Indians did, & carried the Traders to the French fort at Niagara, where they were detained Prisoners, & used with more severity than is used between Civilized Nations to Prisoners in time of War. This is certainly in direct Violation of the 15th Article of the Treaty of Utrecht, by which a free trade with the Indians is expressly stipulated. But it was done to deter the English from many attempts for the future, to trade with those Nations; if care be not taken to prevent the like incursions otherwise than by complaints to the Gov.r of Canada or Court of France, they will at last effectually put an end to that Trade.

The French have Priests among the several Nations in Amity with them, as well as Smiths & Traders, who by presents, with which they are furnished out of the King's Stores, and by other Artifices indeavour to gain the affections of the Indians, & infuse prejudices to the English. The French Embassies are often among the Six Nations & some of them trade among them tho' they have not been able to settle any Priests as yet where in the Villages of the Six Nations. Many of those Priests are for the most part engaged at a cheap easy rate, by a spirit of Enthusiasm, & others by the hopes of preferment. One lately tryed to have a mission at Onondago, but he could not obtain it. This man is now settled on Cadarakeui River, near where it comes from the Lake of the same name. His residence being near the five Nations, & not far from Oswego, he tries all means to draw the Indians to him, and to gain their affections, by distributing large presents among them, & by other artifices; for which purpose he is not only Liberally supplied from the King's Stores, but it is said, that he is a person of considerable Estate, which he converts to the same use, on the promise he has of a Bishoprick after some certain time of service among the Indians.

The great advantage the English have over the French is, their being able to furnish the Indians with Goods at a cheaper rate than the French can, to remove this disadvantage, as much as possible, the french Officer at Niagara has orders, to sell Goods as cheap, or cheaper, than is done at Oswego; tho' it should be done with the loss of 30.000 Livres a year, which he is promised shall be recompensed out of the King's Stores or from the Treasury. The Indians, who trade at Oswego, generally pass by Niagara. The french hope, that if they can once persuade the Indians that they sell as cheap or cheaper than the English, the grand objection which the Indians make to their erecting fortified Trading Houses, will be removed. and if they . . . once can be well secured by fortifications, at all the passes between the Lakes, they can then

speak in a different tone to the Indians: and by force prevent their going to trade any where but with them. The french have already a fort, and a Settlement of french Farmers sufficient to supply themselves with provisions, at a place called Detroit between Lake Erie and the Lake of the Hurons. But the five Nations would never suffer any fortifications, at the Straights between Lake Erie and Cadarakeui Lake, till since Queen Anne's War the French obtained leave to build a Stone House to save their Goods in transportation over the pass between the Lakes which they afterwards insensibly fortified. But now they are attempting a fortification of a different kind, which, if they can accomplish & finish as it is projected, will be of great consequence not only as it will keep the Six Nations at all times in awe; but likewise intercept all the Indians to the Westward of it, & where the great beaver hunting, is in their way to trade with the English. Besides these forts, the french keep a small armed Sloop on Cadarakeui Lake which may be of great consequence in preventing Trade with Oswego. The Six Nations in general are very sensible how much their Liberty will be affected by these forts, and are much displeased with them, tho' the french by Presents and other artifices gain some particular Indians to favour their designs. The Indians would gladly prevent the building of these forts but they have such an opinion of the french Power & good policy, that they dare not attempt any thing of themselves by force while they cannot depend on being effectually supported by the English, which our conduct of late has given them too good reason to doubt of. The English only complain, & expostulate with the Governor of Canada or the Court of France, the french give amusing or evasive answers, but still go on in their works and in pursuing their grand Design, 'til they shall have brought their Work to such perfection, that they can without fear avow their intention.

The grand advantage the French have is, that their affairs among the Indians are all directed by one Council, & no expence is thought too great, which is necessary for their purposes, at the same time it is certainly true that they do perform the same Service at half the expence the English do.

I shall now humbly submit my opinion of what may be proper to be done, in order to secure the fidelity of the Indian Nations already in Amity with the English Colonies, to promote our Interest and Trade among them & all the other Nations in North America, & Defeat the Designs of the French to our prejudice. For these purposes, it seems in the first place necessary, to take off all Duties & Imposts from the Goods used in the Indian Trade. for since the principal advantage the English have over the French is, in their being able to furnish the Indians with Goods at a cheaper rate, the laying Duties on Indian Goods is in a great measure giving up that advantage. Besides, by the artifices used in collecting those Duties, the trade is much hampered, & the fair trader discouraged, & the knavish part of the Traders get advantage of the honest.

Next some Law ought to be passed whereby the Indians, on their Complaints, may get justice done them speedily, by summary process. And that in all dealings between

Indians and Christians, Indian Evidence be allowed. They, who are acquainted with the Indians & the Indian Traders, I am confident will allow, that the Indians have the telling a Lye in evidence as much in abhorrence as the Traders have the swearing a falsehood.

After long observation on the conduct of Indian Affairs I am of opinion, that they can only be well managed by one single person of sufficient ability as superintendant of Indian Affairs, who shall not be allowed to trade in any shape, directly or indirectly, for all the abuses and negligencies in the management of these affairs have arisen from the private views the Commissioners of Indian Affairs have had to promote their own Trade, and to lay the other Traders under difficulties and disadvantages. This of the Trade raises perpetual Jealousies among the people employed in it and likewise with our Neighbouring Colonies, & brings the Commiss.rs into Contempt among the Indians, many Instances of which can be given, & are well known to all who have any knowledge of the Indian Affairs.

If the frauds and abuses in trade be not effectually prevented, it will be impossible otherwise to preserve the affections of the Indians. These abuses can no way be prevented, but by appointing some single Person of sufficient ability, & with authority to redress the Injuries which the Indians receive, & to prevent their receiving the like for the future, and that he have an allowance sufficient to encourage a Gentleman fitly qualified for these purposes.

That he be enabled to send Smiths, to reside among the Indians, Men of the best probity & sense that can be found for that purpose; & to send other Messengers, both Indians & Christians to the distant Nations upon any emergency & as occasion shall require.

No doubt it will be of great use to have Missionary Preachers settled in as many places as there can be requisite funds for their subsistence. It is hoped the Society's in England, for propagating the Gospel & Christian Knowledge in foreign parts, will contribute to the utmost of their ability. In this case much will depend on the choice of the persons. They must be subject to the direction of the Superintendant of Indian Affairs, & correspond constantly with him.

The Superintendant ought constantly to correspond with the Board of Trade, and with all the Governors on the Continent of North America, to give and receive Intelligence & Advices, so far I think is necessary, & perhaps may be sufficient, to promote our Interest and Trade among the Indians, if the Designs and Enterprizes of the French were not at the same time to be guarded against. For this purpose I am of opinion, the building a Sloop of force at Oswego, in order to Cruize the whole Summer on Ontario Lake, would be of great use; because all the Indians & Traders,

who go to or come from the Indian Nations to the Westward, & all the fur Trade passes through this Lake. This Vessel may carry goods to several parts round this Lake at Stated times at which times the Indians living round the Lake & at a distance from it may come by appointment or advice to purchase those Goods at the cheapest rates. She ought to be of such force, as not to be under any apprehension from the small Sloop which the French have on the same Lake. This I hinted to Mr. Clark several years since, and I was told that he proposed it to the Board of Trade, & I have since often heard your Excellency mention it as a thing you thought would be of great use. Next to make a Settlement and some kind of Fortification at Irondequat which is on Cadaraqui Lake about half way between Oswego and Oneagara where the French are now building their fort. This has likewise been long in thought, as the Land there is very good & fit for a Settlement, & has been purchased of the Indians for that purpose. The uses of this fort and Settlement are 1st. that it is the Pass from Canada to the Senecas Country 2dly That in case the French obstructed the passage at Oneagara, the Indians by making a Circuit within Land, could come to this place to Trade. 3dly it may be very convenient on many occasions as a harbour for the Sloops, proposed to be built on the Lake. 4thly If we do not take possession of it the French will, which they have again & again attempted. and lastly in case of War it will be of great use for securing the fidelity of the Senecas & Cayugas & Neighbouring Nations & a necessary step if any design should be formed against the French Fort at Oneagara. The Sloops being first Built would much facilitate the Settlement at Irondequah. These things are all that I think necessary & practicable at this time. It now remains only to shew how a fund may be found for the necessary expences attending these Services proposed to be done.

This I think may be done by a Duty on all Wines & Spirits, imported into or made in any of the Colonies of North America, and I am persuaded it would be sufficient, for all the purposes before proposed, if the same be duly collected. It can be no prejudice to Trade, as it is - general on all the Colonies, whereas now, a Duty is laid on Spirits in some of the Colonies, while others are free, which lays the one under a disadvantage in their Trade, from which the others are free: but in this Case, all being equal it must fall on the Consumers, on whom it cannot be a hardship, or if they think it hard may forbear the use of these Liquors. So far as I can apprehend, it can be of no disadvantage to Trade, except in one instance; that is in the exportation of Spirits from North America to the Coast of Africa, for purchasing of Slaves; in which Case if thought necessary, the Duty may be drawn back, 40s. on every Pipe of Wine & three pence Sterling on every Gallon of Spirits may be sufficient.) It is true, that Spirits make a considerable part of

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See from the Custom House Books of New York the quantity of Spirits & number of Pipes imported in a Year.

Perhaps it may be better to lay a Duty of 2d. p Gall.n on Molasses instead of the Duty on Spirits Distilled in the British Colonies.

the Trade with the Indians, but if it be considered that there is a 2nd Duty of one shilly a Gallon on all Rum, sold at Oswego or to our Indians to the Westward of Albany, for the Support of the Garrison at Oswego, & notwithstanding of this we can undersell the French in this Article it may be presumed that the Duty of 3 pence ℔ Gallon cannot hurt the Trade with the Indians, more especially when this Trade is to be freed, from all other Imposts, and the Traders from many difficulties they now labour under. As this Duty is proposed to be general over all the Colonies it must be imposed by Act of Parliament, because it would be a most vain imagination to expect, that all the Colonies would severally agree to impose it.

Now, Sir, I have as far as I am capable, given your Excellency the present State of affairs between the English and French Colonies & the Indians, & what I think at this time necessary to secure their fidelity, promote the British Trade and defeat the Enterprizes of the French to our prejudice. One thing remaining further to be considered is, to secure our frontiers from the incursions of the french Indians, in case of any future War. If what I have already proposed be effectually put in execution, it will in a great measure secure the Colonies from such like attempts; because in such Case the French will have too much to fear, wantonly to provoke us, by the incursions of the few Indians, that in such Case will be under their direction. But notwithstanding of this, it would be imprudent not to take what Care we can against these Dangers, & the time of Peace is the only proper time for doing it. In time of War we shall have too many things on our hands, & a great expence otherwise unavoidable.

We may learn from our natural Enemies the french of Canada what is proper to be done, as soon as a peace is concluded, they begin to take all the proper precautions for their Security against a succeeding War.

The French for at Crown point is of little consequence as to Trade, only so far, that it puts it in the power of the French to encourage or stop the Trade between Albany & Canada, at their pleasure, as they shall under any change of Circumstances, think it most for their benefit. But, as I think it would be most for the British Interest to have that trade entirely stopped, I am under no concern for what difficulties it may be laid under. Perhaps this trade alone secures the Cahnuagas in the French Interest, by the particular benefit they reap, by being the common Carriers between the Dutch at Albany and the French. If they were deprived of this benefit, they would find it for their Interest to return to the five Nations, from whom they are originally Deserters and speak the same Language. However this may be, it is certainly necessary to build one or more forts near the carrying Place between Hudson's River & the Wood Creek, in the way from Albany to Canada. As by this Pass, the French Indians make

their incursions on New York and New England. The principal use of the french fort S.t Frederick, on Crown Point, at the South end of Lake Champlain, is to defend Canada from incursions from New York or New England, and to make incursions from thence on those Provinces, & therefore it becomes necessary to have one or more forts at this pass, to prevent those incursions, & which may likewise prevent any commerce with Canada, which hereafter may be thought prejudicial to the Safety or Interest of the British Colonies. As these forts will be a security to all the Southern Colonies, the expence of Building & supporting them ought to be a general Charge on all. the frontier Provinces must unavoidably suffer many inconveniences, in time of War especially, from which the others are free, & from which they are freed by these being frontiers to them, and therefore it is highly reasonable that the others should contribute to the charge of the defence of them. And the others being at a distance from the frontiers makes them more able to bear the Charge But from what has been perpetually observed on this head in all times passed it is not to be hoped that the other Colonies will contribute to this charge in such proportion as they ought, if they do it in any proportion, otherwise than by being compelled to it by some superior authority.

This Memorial has run into a much greater length than I intended or expected it would but as I believe that your Excellency may design it for the use of those who may otherwise have little or no knowledge of the Indian Affairs I thought it necessary to give a circumstantial account of them, which however is humbly submitted to your Excellency's correction Judgement & Experience in those Affairs by

Sir

Your Excellency's

Most obedient and

Most humble Servant

Cadwallader Colden

To Dr Mitchel

The Memorial of the Indian Affairs, which I drew up at our Govr. desire, & which I believe he designs for the Board of Trade, has run out into so great a length, that I was afraid of adding any particulars for proof, tho' I believe they would much confirm my reasoning on this Subject. But as you have frequent opportunities of conversing with some of that Board, I think it may be of use to add them by way of appendix, to the Copy of that Memorial, which I now send you; that, if you think the knowledge of them may be of any service, you may make what use of them you think proper.

Several years since, and some years before Mr. Clinton's appointment, so many of the far Indians came to the trading House at Oswego at one time, that most of the Goods were sold, when a number of a very distant Nation came to Trade there. Among other Things they wanted a quantity of Rum. One Nicholas Schuyler a Brother in a noted & principal Family at Albany, undertook to supply them, which is always done in small Caggs, containing from two to three Gallons, for the convenience of transportation. The Indians when they carry Rum home to their own habitations, never touch it while they are upon the Road, knowing their own weakness, that if they once begin to drink, they cannot forbear, so long as any remains. This man knowing this to be the Custom of Indians, which they firmly adhere to, filled the Caggs with Water, and only dipped the Linnen cags in Rum, which were put round the bungs to keep them tight. He was in no apprehensions of a discovery, as these Indians were to travel 3 or 400 Miles, before they reached home. But in their way, they met with a number of men of another Nation, in amity with them, & resolving, to treat them with some of their Rum, broached a Cagg, which being found to contain only water, without a single drop of Rum, they examined the others, and found them all alike, the Indians returned with anger & resentment to Oswego. The Commanding Officer . . . . . made them some reparation, and did what he could to appease them; and as this gross cheat was like to be of great prejudice to the trade he acquainted the Governor with it. Who, by advice of Council, ordered the King's Attorney to prosecute Nicholas Schuyler for a Cheat. A new Assembly happened to be soon called, Nicholas Schuyler was elected a Member.

The Attorney General was prevailed with to drop the prosecution, & Schuylers Family having a considerable Interest in the Assembly, the Governor thought proper to wink at it.

Since Governor Clinton's Administration, & while the Assembly took to themselves the appointment of all Officers for extraordinary services, this Nicholas Schuyler was appointed by them to build the fort at Saratoga. This he performed in as shameful a manner as any thing of the kind was ever done, & yet this man was paid his full demands, while at the same time the Assembly refused to repay Money bona fide advanced in the publick Service by Persons employed by the Governor.

Another remarkable instance to shew how the Indians are cheated is as follows, one David Schuyler was in Jail at Albany on an execution for a debt of £

remember right, of about 200 pounds. As the Schuyler Family, and this man in particular, had gained an Interest and Friendship among the Indians, he escaped from Jail, and fled to the Mohawks, who protected him against the Sheriff; but at the same time told the Sheriff, that neither he nor Schuyler's Creditors should suffer by the protection which they gave to Schuyler, for they were resolved to give him as much Land, as by the Sale of it, would pay his Debts, and likewise a sufficient quantity for a farm for himself & family to live on, which accordingly was honestly performed on the part of the Indians. But in taking the Deed Schuyler framed Boundaries so as to take in ten times the quantity of Land, that the Indians intended to give him, even to include in it, the Land on which their Village was built, & the Land which they then planted, which was some of the best low Lands in the Country. This was done by advice of one of the richest men in the Province, and with whom the Indian Affairs were more particularly intrusted by the Government he whose Interest the King's Patent was obtained, confirming the Land to the persons who had thus grossly cheated the Indians. The Business of my Office of Surveyor Gen.l of Lands called me into the Mohawks Country a few years after this happened, and as I had business then with the Indians, in relation to Lands, I desired this David Schuyler to assist, believing that he would be of use to me, from the account that I had received of this particular kindness the Indians had done him, and I made use of him on several occasions as an Interpreter. On several accidental meetings that I had with some of the Sachems, they made long Speeches to me with unusual vehemence, while this man was present. But when these Speeches were Interpreted to me, I was told they contain'd only compliments on their seeing me in their Country. I sent to the Castle to appoint a Day to meet their Sachems together, on some business I had to impart to them; but the Evening before I was to meet them, some malicious person sent some Rum into the Castle, so that when I came the next morning, tho' they made me in all appearance very welcome, I found them all Drunk. I therefore resolved not to stop but proceeded on about ten Miles farther. I had then about 20 Men in Company with me, I was in the front, and this David Schuyler in the rear, when at some distance from the Village, I heard a cry of Murther. A young fellow who was not drunk came up, with his Knife in his hand to David Schuyler, & threatned him. After some time they got the Indian so far pacified that he went away. Schuyler immediately came up & rode near me, when a little while after the same Indian came from the Woods on horse back, with his knife in his hand, and stopped Schuyler a second time, I then directed the Interpreter to ask the Indian, how he came to have the insolence to disturb one on the high way, or to threaten any in my Company. I believe his answer was not truly interpreted to me. I ordered him to give up his Knife, on which he immediately took hold of it by the point, & offered the handle to me, & then went away.

The next morning two of the Sachems came to the place where I lodged,

to excuse, as they said, the rudeness I had met with. The young Indian they said had no design of disrespect to me, but that he could not bear to see that rogue David Schuyler in my Company. After which they told me how basely & villainously they had been cheated by him. On which I told Schuyler, I thought the Indians had so great a kindness for you, that I believed you would have been of use to me, but since I find it otherwise, you must return home; on which he cryed out o Lord! I dare not. They will Murther me— I got the Sachems to promise they would conduct him safe to his own House, & he left me.

Then they gave me a particular account of their kindness to him, & of his Treachery as before related, and added that they had entered a formal Complaint of this matter to the Commissioners of Indian Affairs, with a large Belt, but could obtain no answer, and desired my assistance for redress. While I was among them they treated me with all the confidence that any People could do. As they are honest themselves, they naturally think others to be so, till they find themselves abused by them. For this reason they have more confidence in the English & Germans, than in the Low Dutch, whom they heartily despise.

When I returned to New York I laid a Memorial before the Gov.r & Council relating the abuses committed in the purchase of Lands from the Indians, & proposed rules to be observed in future purchases, to prevent the like frauds: which were agreed to by the Council, & ordered accordingly.

I have given these two particular Instances from among thousands that may be given, of the Treatment the Indians met with from Christians, and at the same time will in some measure shew of what sort of Men our Assemblies are composed, who endeavour to assume to themselves the whole executive powers of Government.

I shall add a third, One named Bratt of the County of Albany was two years since at Oswego he there stole an Indian Boy of about twelve years old from an Missisague Indian his father who was there trading (one of that Nation which in time of the last War left the French and joined with us) Bratt sent the Boy to Albany. In complaint of this abuse by the Commanding Officer at Oswego the Gov.r by advice of Council directed the Magistrates of Albany to enquire into it & that if they found it as represented that the Boy should be restored to his father; but nothing was done 'till this Summer when the Gov.r was at Albany. The facts were fully proved before the Governor & Council by persons who were at Oswego when this was done, and likewise that the Indians resented the injury so much that they threatned to make reprisals by falling upon the Christians. Then by order of Council the Boy was taken from Bratt & sent to Oswego there to be delivered to his father, & Bratt was ordered to be prosecuted in the Supreme Court at the King's Suit. The People of Albany exclaimed against this order of Council as Tyrannical & Arbitrary, & so will every Order be called that restrains them from cheating the Indians.

August 17: 1751.

Cadwallader Colden

not to do the like again. We take it kindly that you come to express your grateful Sense of our Favour."

A String.

"Brethren:

"We take Notice of your setting at Wyomen. We are not against it, provided all the other Indians know and approve it, and we recommend it to you to live affectionately with our Brethren the Indians of the other Nations in the Neighbourhood. In token of our liking well your Removal to your new Settlement we give you this String."

A String.

"Brethren:

"Your Assurances of living with us like good Children and faithful Subjects are agreeable to Us. We shall not fail to take the same Care of you as we do of our other Brethren so long as you merit our Protection. We Speak this from our hearts as well as from our Mouths, and in Confirmation of our truth and sincerity we give you this Belt."

A Belt.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Wednesday the 21st of August, 1751.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell, William Logan, Joseph Turner, Richard Peters, } Esquires.

The Minutes of the two preceding Councils were read & approv'd.

The Governor on the fifteenth Instant received the following Message by two Members:

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

"May it please the Governor:

"By several Addresses from the Assemblies of this Province, and particularly by our Message of the nineteenth of October last, the Reason we have to hope our Proprietaries will chearfully contribute towards the heavy Charges which are annually brought against the Province on Account of Indian Affairs will clearly appear; And as the Governor in his Answer to our Message was then so kind as to assure us of his Intercession with the Proprietaries, we now request he would be pleased to inform the House

what Progress he has made on this our respectful and reasonable Application.

"Sign'd by order of the House,

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"August 15, 1751."

To which the Governor, by his Secretary, sent the following Answer:

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"Agreeable to your Request in your Message of October last, I acquainted the Honourable the Proprietaries with your Expectation, that they would bear a Part of the Charges arising upon Treaties and other negotiations with the Indians. In answer to which they have been pleased to direct me to acquaint the Assembly that they do not conceive themselves under any obligation to contribute to Indian or any other publick Expences, even tho' Taxes were laid on the People for the Charges of Government; But as there is not one Shilling levied on the People for that Service there is the less Reason for asking any thing of them, Notwithstanding which they have charged themselves with paying to the Interpreter much more than could be due to him on any Treaties for Land, and are at this Time at the Expence of maintaining his Son with a Tutor in the Indian Country, to learn their Language and Customs for the service of the Provinces, as well as of sundry other Charges on Indian Affairs; That they have been at considerable Expences for the service of the Province, both in England and here: all which being considered, and that they purchase the Land from the Indians and pay them for it, and that they are under no greater Obligation to contribute to the publick Charges than any other chief Governor of any of the other Colonies, they would have been well pleased to have been freed from the necessity of giving a disagreeable answer to any application upon that Subject.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"August 16, 1751."

And on the Day after a Bill was delivered to the Governor by two Members, Entituled "A Supplement to the Act entituled 'An Act for imposing a Duty on Persons convicted of heinous Crimes, and to prevent poor and impotent Persons being imported into this Province,'" which was taken into Consideration and an Amendment proposed and returned to the House.

And this Morning the Governor received the following Message:

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

"May it please the Governor:

"We have a grateful Sense of the Governor's Care and concern

in Indian Affairs, the prudent Management of which is of great Importance to the Peace and Safety of these Colonies; but if it should be agreeable with the Governor's Sentiments we would wish that such as may hereafter be employed on Business with the Indians might be cautioned against charging themselves with Letters from every inferior French Officer who shall presume to send down his Threats or pretended Claims to our Governor, in order to give himself an Air of Authority among our Indian Allies.

"The Informations of Conrad Weiser and Andrew Montour on their Arrival in Town, since the Governor's Message of the thirteenth Instant, we suppose have given the Governor as well as the House Reason to believe that the Request inserted in George Croghan's Journal, which the Governor was pleased to lay before the House, as made by the Indians at Ohio to this Government, to erect a strong Trading House in their Country, as well as the Danger 'tis there said they apprehended from the Attempts of the French, have been misunderstood or misrepresented by the Person in whom the Governor confided for the Management of that Treaty.

"We have seriously considered the offer made by our Proprietaries of contributing toward building such a House; but as we have always found that sincere, upright Dealing with the Indians, a friendly Treatment of them on all occasions, and particularly in relieving their Necessities at proper Times by suitable Presents, have been the best means of securing their Friendship, we could wish our Proprietaries had rather thought fit to join with us in the Expence of those Presents, the Effects of which have at all Times so manifestly advanced their Interest with the Security of our Frontier Settlements.

"As it appears from the late notorious Disorders among the Indian Traders, as well as from the Representation of the Magistrates of Cumberland, that some very unfit Persons are at present employed in that Business, we hope the Governor will enjoin the Justices of the County Courts to be more careful for the future when they recommend for Licences; and whatever is thought further necessary to enforce or amend the Laws now in being for regulating the Indian Trade and Traders, may be considered by the ensuing Assembly in the Winter Sitting, when the Members are generally most at leisure to attend closely to publick Business.

"We have paid the Accounts of our Interpreters as we hope to their full Satisfaction, and have the other Accounts mentioned by the Governor under our Consideration.

"Sign'd by Order of the House,

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"August 21, 1751."

Some more Justices being wanted for the County of Chester, Joshua Pusey and Samuel Lightfoot were recommended to the Gov-

ernor as Persons well qualified for that Office, and two Separate Commissions of the Peace were ordered to be made for them accordingly.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Saturday the 24th of August, 1751.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Thomas Lawrence, Robert Strettell, William Logan, Joseph Turner, Richard Peters, } Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The following Letter from Governor Clinton, with Coll. Johnson's Letter to him enclosed, were laid before the Assembly, read in Council, and order'd to be enter'd:

A Letter from Governor Clinton to Governer Hamilton.

"FLAT BUSH, on Long Island, 13th August, 1751.

"S^{r}:

"Being at present with my Family out in the Country for the Benefit of the Air, After a very severe Fit of the Gout, and receiving the enclosed Account yesterday evening, I sent this to Town to be forwarded by the very first opportunity, thinking it a Matter of Importance to your Province, which I hope will come time enough for your Honour to make use of proper Precautions.

"You may depend on the earliest Communication of what further News I may receive relating to the Schemes of the French. I am with the greatest Truth,

"Your Honour's most obedient and very humble Servant,

"G. CLINTON.

A Letter to Governor Clinton from Coll. Johnson.

"MOUNT JOHNSON, July 27th, 1751.

"May it please your Excellency:

"I enclose an account of what the French are about now at Cadaraghgin, given to Capt. Lindesay by Attrawancy, Cajuga Sachim, who begg'd of him to let me know it as soon as possible. I thought proper also to let your Excellency know that there has a Body of French to the number of twelve hundred, and two hundred Orondakees, &c., passed by Oswego about a fortnight ago, with a design to cut off (as I understand) some of the Nations of Indians

DEED OF LAND

D.S.[1]

[*August 24, 1751*]

To all to whom these presents Shall come or may in any wise conscern. We Abraham Petersey, Brant alias Aroghyiadecka Seth of Schoharee, David Alias Aghnerageghta, Cagiquatch, Big Nickus, Nickus the Sachim, Squa 'ne' wa 'se, Ta 'wagh 'ki 'wassey & Hendrick — Native Indians and sole and absolute proprietors of Conajoharee, (and the Lands herein after discribed & Granted) in the County of Albany and Province of New York, Send Greeting, Know ye that for and in Consideration of the Sum of three Hundred Pounds New York Currency in Goods to us in trade paid and delivered before the executing of these presents by the hands of William Johnson of Fort Johnson in the County and Province aforesaid Gentleman the Receipt whereof, We do hereby acknowledge, and thereof and therefrom, and of and from everry part and parcel, thereof do fully and Clearly acquit exonerate and discharge him the Said William Johnson, his Heirs Executors Administrators & Every of them by these Presents. — for and in the Name of our Most Gracious Soverign King George the Second the receipt whereof We do hereby acknowledge and our selves to be there with fully Satisf[ied] Contented and paid, Have granted bargained Sold and released, And do by these presents for Us and Our Heirs for ever Grant bargain Sell Alien release enfeoff And confirm and forever quit Claim unto Our Said

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[1] In New York State Library, Colonial Land Papers. Portions of this document are in Sir William's hand. In 1785, in the case of a transfer of the property in this deed from Sir John Johnson to Robert L. Hooper, it was contended that the deed was invalid: (1) because it was in the land of the Oneidas, and only one of the Indians conveying it was an Oneida; (2) it was conveyed to the Crown and not to Sir William; (3) that 20 years elapsed before Sir William applied for the tract; and then he asked for only that part to the mouth of the Unadilla (see survey dated April 12, 1770, Colonial Land Papers), (4) and that he did not convey this portion in his will, except such as was willed to his brothers and sisters in Ireland. Colonial Land Papers, XXXIX, p. 93. [98].

most gracious Soverign King George the Second—[2]All that Tract of Vacant Land lying in the County of Albany to the South an[d] South West of Scohary, Beginning at a certain place where two Roads, or Indian Paths [meet] the one leading from Scohary to the House of Skenowasey an Indian & the other to Onohagqua[ga] Which Said place of Beginning is near a Creek, or Branch of a Creek called by the Indians Adagaghteingay Thence running down the said Creek, and Branches thereof to a [ ] where the Germans of Scohare formerly made Canoes to go to Canestogey, then still continuing down the Said Creek to y^e^. place where it emptieth itself into y^e^. large branch of y^e^. Susquahana River, a considerable distance below the House of the before mentioned Ind^n^. Skanewasey, from thence along the Said River Until it Meets or Joins to Pensilvania Patent, Including all the Lands unpatented from the Said place of Beginning to the Said Patent of Pensilvania, and all the Unpatented Lands on both Sides or Shores of the Said Creeks and River the Breadth of Two Miles, that is to Say, a Mile in Breadth from the Banks of the Said Creeks and River on Each Side from the place of Beginning to the place where it meets, or Joins to the North Bounds or Line of Pensilvania Pattent or Grant[2] Together with all and every the Mines Minerals or Ore of what kind soever Standing growing being or to be found in or upon any part or parcell thereof and all other the Hereditaments and Appurtenances to the said Tract or parcell of Lands belonging or in any wise appertaining and the reversion and reversions remainder and Remainders rents Issues and profitts thereof and of every part and parcell thereof And all the Estate right title Interest property possession Claim and demand soever of Us and each and every of Us either in Law or Equity of in or to the aforesaid Tract or parcell of Lands or any part or parcel thereof To have and [ ] the said tract or parcell of Lands and all and Singular other the premisses aforesaid

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[2] The description of the tract is given in a draft letter to Goldsbrow Banyar, May 6, 1751, printed in *Johnson Papers*, 1:921-22. In the deed this is in Sir William's hand, to the point indicated by the second superior figure [2].

with their and every of their hereditaments and Appurtenances in and of [ ] presents mentioned or intended to be granted and released as aforesaid unto Our said most gracious Soverign King George the Second his Heirs and Successors to and for his and their Sole and only proper use benefit and behoof forever In Witness whereof We have hereunto Sett our hands and Seals this Twenty fourth Day of August in the Twenty fifth Year of His said Majesties Reign Annoque Domine One thousand Seven Hundred fifty and One —

Sealed and delivered
In the presence of
MATT^{W}. FERRALL
AERNDT STEVENS
PIETER D. SCHUYLER
ROB^{T}. ADEMS

his
SKANEWASEY [SEAL]
Mark

his
TAWAGHKIWASSEY an Oneida [SEAL]
Mark

his
ABRAHAM PETERSEY [SEAL]
Mark

his

BRANT SEN^{R}. [SEAL]

Mark

his

SETH OF SCOHAREE [SEAL]

Mark

his

DAVID OF CONAJOHAREE [SEAL]

Mark

his

CA'GIG'NA'TEHA' CONAJOHAR SACHIM [SEAL]

Mark

his

NICKUS A CONAJOHAREE IND^{N}. [SEAL]

Mark

his

NICKUS SACHIM was prisnr. [SEAL]

Mark

his

HENDRICK PETERS [SEAL]

Mark

WILL OF SIR PETER WARREN

D[1]

[*July 26, 1752*]

In the Name of God Amen I Sir Peter Warren Knight of the Bath being Sick in Body[2] but of Sound Mind and Memory Do make this my last Will and Testament in manner following hereby revoking all others I Give and bequeath to my most Dear and well beloved Wife the Sum of three thousand pounds fifteen hundred pounds thereof to dispose of among her own Relations if She shall think proper otherwise to be at her absolute disposal the remaining fifteen hundred pounds to dispose of among my Relations in such manner and proportions and at such times as She shall think fitting. I Give the further Sum of three hundred pounds to my most Entirely beloved Wife to be laid out in Rings and

[1] In New York Historical Society, Warren Papers.

[2] Sir Peter Warren died July 29, 1752. He had gone to Dublin to receive the degree of LL.D. on June 12. He was taken with a violent fever, four days after which he died. His death was reported by his nephew Warren Johnson, who was then with him. *Johnson Papers*, I:370-71.

they are from Consenting to it—they are too Sensible of the Consequence of it ever in their Senses to Consent—possibly the pretence he has in saying that its only for a place of refreshment for travellers, may with large presents have persuaded on some particular men of the five nations to Consent to it, as was done at their former Setlements of Cataracque Detroit & near Niagara, but by experience the five nations have found those refreshing places turned into Fortifications in Defyance of them and that they help them against the Treaty of Utrecht and all the applications that have been made for redress and by means of these they will before long if a proper remedy be not found not only Deprive the five nations of their bever hunting Country but Stop all intercourse between the English & the five nations of indians in allyance with the five nations, as Niagara is the Rout by which they come

As to the four prisoners it would Seem that the Governour of Pensilvania is the most proper person to make remarks on that part of the Letter that Concerns them

In the Extracts from the Indian Registers herewith

Made Augt 27th
sent one coppy to Govr
Clinton & another to
Dr. Mitchell

James Alexander to John Mitchell

New York Augt 27th 1751

Sir

having yesterday on my arrival here from New jersey rec^{d} a packet from Dr Colden enclosing a Letter to you & the State of the indian affairs herewith inclosed, he Desired me to peruse that State and if any thing occurred to me theron to be added or altered to make notes thereof to you, I have accordingly perused it again and again but find nothing that I think necessary to add to or alter in it nor Should I have troubled you with this had it not been that his Ex^{cy} our Govr Sent me yesterday, a Letter to him from the Govr of Canada of Augt 10th instant for

my perusal & to make Some observations upon it to him (he being at present in the Country for the benefite of his health) which I accordingly did & thought a Coppy of that Letter & of those observations & of Some Extracts I made from the Indian registers might be a proper appendix to Doctor Colden's state, and as Such I Enclose them to you and am

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Extracts from the Register of Indian affairs in Albany

August 16th 1694. In the Speech of the 5 Nations to Govr Fletcher Giving an account of the Propositions they had Sent to the Govr of Canada for a peace 9th article is

"Onnoudro (that's the Name they Give to the Govr of Canada)

"Wee will admitt of no Settlement at Cataracqui, you have had your Fire there Twice, which we have Quenched and therefore will not Consent To any Rebuilding There"

In their answers to Govr Fletcher on Aug 20th 1694 they say "we have told the Govrs of Canada That He Shall not Rebuild Cataracqui; and if we Come to Discourse him again Shall Tell him plainly that we will not admitt it

His Excellency tells them if they will admitt The French to Rebuild that fort or any other fort on This Side of the Lake it will Bring them and their posterrity in perpetual Slavery and therefore his Excellency Expects that they will Give him Notice if Ever the French Should attempt it that he may march up Thither with force To Hinder him from making any infringement on his Masters Territories, And Expects that the five Nations will assist him therein Else it will Shake the Covenant Chain

They answer

We are glad your Excellency Renews that to us, we Shall never Suffer that Place to be Rebuilt—it has Been ominous to us, our People Having Been Betrayed there

July 19th 1701 Part of the Speech of the 5 Nations to Lieut. Govr Nanfan

Article 3. We Complain of the french of Canada's incroaching upon our Territories; and that they go and Build forts upon our lands without our Consent we pray that the great King of England may Be acquainted with it Do give 10 Bevers

Article 7. We Desire that our Secretary Robert Livingston may be Sent To *Korackkow* (the name they give to the King of England) the Great King of England To Acquaint him how that the french of Canada incroach upon our Territories By Building a fort at *Tejughsaghrondie* (What the french Call *le Detroit*)—and to pray that our Great King may use all means to Prevent it; Else we Shall Be So Tied up we Shall not Be able to Live—They will Come Nearer and Nearer Every Day with their Forts—we Do give up and Render all That Land where the Bever Hunting is which we won with the Sword Eighty Years Agoe. To Corackkow our Great King, and pray that he may Be our Protector and Defender there and Desire that our Secretary will write an Instrument which we will Sign and Seal that it may Be Carried By him to The King—for if he Does not go there is So much Business, this will Be only Read, Laid aside, and forgot; But if he goes we are Sure we Shall have an answer—Do give 10 Beavers

Article 12th of Same Speech

Brother Corlaer

The Govr of Canada has Sent a party of Men who are gone Behind our Country privately To Build a fort at Tejughsaghrondie you are Desirous to Know what we have Done in that Case—your People who have Been at Onondaga Can tell you we Thought this government would have Done Something In this and to have found you Busy in your Books and Maps (meaing that the Line Should Be Run between Thè Two Governments) we Can Do Nothing In the Case you know we have not Power to Resist Such a Christian Enemy, therefore we must Depend—Upon you Brother Corlaer to take this

Case in hand and acquaint the Great King with it—for what will Become of us at this Rate where Shall we Hunt a Beavor if the french of Canada Take possession of our Beavor Country—Do give 9 Beavers and 2 others N.B Robert Livingston Did go Soon after to England and Probably Carried that Deed to the King with him and Prosecuted the Complaints of the Indians about Cataracque and Tejughsaghronsie. But the wars of Queen Anne Happening Soon after Rendered it Impossible to Do any thing In the matter then By Negotiation with France but the Complaints then made By him in Behalf of the five nations, and the Complaints of the Sachems that went with Coll Schuyler a few years after I suppose were the occasion of the 15 article of the Treaty of Utrecht—the Deed I Suppose is to be found with the Board of Trade—after the peace I know of No Care that was taken to get the french Dispossessed of Cataracqui and Tejughsaghrondie which Encouraged them about the year 1720. To make a further Settlement near Niagara in the Country of the five Nations which was By the Indians Complained of to Govr Burnet and By him to the Court of Great Brittain But no Redress Ever was obtained on any of these Encroachments, which now Induces them to make this attempt of Building a fortification at the very carrying Place of Niagara By which they Can Exclude the five Nations from their Beavor Country and Stop all intercourse Between the English and the far Indians—not Doubting Before Redress Can Be had that the fortification will Be finished, and when So, they have no fears about Delivering it up

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From James Alexander

New York Augt 29th 1751

Dr Sir

On my return from jersey on Sunday last I received yours of the 17th which was very agreeable to me as I found thereby you had recovered your health perfectly

I carefully perused your State of the Indian affairs

James Alexander's Notes on the Govr of Canada's Letter of Aug 10th 1751

his Excellencys Letter of the 12th of june last if I remember right, represented to the Govr of Canada, the infractions of the 15th article of the Treaty of Utrecht in regard to the fortification building at Niagara on the Lands of the five nations & nearby in the midle of their Country, and in regard to four English Indian traders who were in time of peace Supposed to be taken prisoners upon Ohio river and plundered of their merchandize which his Excellency Supposed was without the Govr of Canada's knowledge or Consent, but requesting his Enquiry into these things & if found true to Desist from buildings to Set the prisoners at Liberty & to recompense them for their Damages

the Govr of Canada by his answer of Augt. 18th Confesses the things complained of to be true—does not deny them to be infractions of the treaty of Utrecht—but advances a number of facts groundless & false in themselves which (Says he) had they been known at the Treaty of Utrecht & Aix La Chapelle the Dominion of England over the five nations would not have been acknowledged by his master the King of France but rather that of his master says that the four prisoners are taken tradeing with the Indians at Ohio contrary to an ordnance of his forbidding the English to trade there tho that be a Country belonging to the five nations, and the Twightures & other Indians upon it who are not natives of the five nations have been long agoe received by this Government in to the Same Covenant claim with the five nations

This seems treating his Britannick Majesty and the Treatys of Utrecht & Aix La Chapelle with contempt and The Letter Seems (what he Says) beyond an answer for the very answering would it Seems be admitting Solemn treaties to be called in question—if any answer be thought of to him it aught to be with the utmost caution & deliberation & best advice possible

It would seem proper that one Coppy of the Letter be sent forth with to the Govr of Pensilvania, for his Sentiments upon it, as the prisoners belonged to that Government and a great part of Ohio river is actually within the Grant to the proprietarys of Pensilvania

it would Seem also proper that other Coppies be Laid before his Majesty's ministers for redress from the Court of France & that the Govr of Canada may be recalled & punished for the infractions of the treatys & Contempts Expressed in his Letter

So far on the Letter in general,

I shall now make Some remarks upon some of the paragraphs of the Letter

No. 1. to Deny that the five nations ever were Subjects of the King of Great Brittain when his Dominion over them as Expressly acknowledged by the 15th article of the Treaty of Utrecht is a piece of unparallelled Effrontery—The Sentiments which he there Says the five nations have are what the French have been impressing them with for many years with the utmost application and I wish they may not have prevailed too far, and if other measures be not Speedily taken as to Indian affairs, there's no Small probability they will prevail

No. 2 I do not believe it true that the french were the first white people that appeared upon the Lands of the five nations, its near 140 years agoe Since the Dutch Setled at Albany and Schenectady which places are part of the Countries that did then belong to five nations as appears by the registers of Indian affairs here & other authentick monuments, and I question if the five nations had then or for scores of years after ever made friendship with the french because of the assistance that the french from their first coming to America always gave to the Algonquins the most ancient & inveterate Enemies of the five nations

No. 3 I know of no possession that the french had of any part of the Country of the Five nations till long after their Submission to the Dominion of Great Brittain and Some five years before the revolution and the

first possession of the french of any part of their country was I believe at Cataracque, and that was no more at first than Leave from the five nations to build a tradeing house in their Country for their convenience but they afterwards having fortified that place the five nations took it from them twice, and tho at the peace they made with the french in 1694 (because not assisted in the war by any of the English Colonies but New York & found that they give them not sufficient assistance) the french insisted upon setleing again at Cataracque yet the five nations absolutely refused their Consent to it as appears by the Indian Registers here

The french possession at Detroit was not full after the peace of Reswick & it appears these Encroachments were generously complained of by the five nations to the Govr of New York and they insisted then that his Brittannick Majesty should apply to the french King for redress, for that the Converting these Setlements into fortifications they Saw might in time deprive them of their bever hunting Country which Extends from Cataracque Lake to the Northermost part of the Hurons Lake bounded on the Southward by Lake Erie & the Detroit, and I Suppose it was the many applications to the Court of Great Brittain after the peace of Reswick & during Queen Annes war against those encroachments of the french, that induced the Court of Great Brittain to insist at the treaty of Utrecht upon an absolute acknowledgement of the Dominion of Great Brittain over the five nations which was Conceded to by the 15th article as to the time of their setleing first near Niagara it was only about the year 1720.

& these 3 are the only setlements I know of that the French have in the Country of the 5 Nations how far these (complained of as before) will be from supporting that assertion of the Govr of Canada, I submit No. 4 the Setlement he is now makeing at Niagara into a fortification is done on the Sight & in defyance of the five nations & of the Treaty of Utrecht The Last Conference with the five nations at Albany in July last will show how far

they are from Consenting to it—they are too Sensible of the Consequence of it ever in their Senses to Consent—possibly the pretence he has in saying that its only for a place of refreshment for travellers, may with large presents have persuaded on some particular men of the five nations to Consent to it, as was done at their former Setlements of Cataracque Detroit & near Niagara, but by experience the five nations have found those refreshing places turned into Fortifications in Defyance of them and that they help them against the Treaty of Utrecht and all the applications that have been made for redress and by means of these they will before long if a proper remedy be not found not only Deprive the five nations of their bever hunting Country but Stop all intercourse between the English & the five nations of indians in allyance with the five nations, as Niagara is the Rout by which they come

As to the four prisoners it would Seem that the Governour of Pensilvania is the most proper person to make remarks on that part of the Letter that Concerns them

In the Extracts from the Indian Registers herewith

Made Augt 27th
sent one coppy to Govr
Clinton & another to
Dr. Mitchell

James Alexander to John Mitchell

New York Augt 27th 1751

Sir

having yesterday on my arrival here from New jersey rec^{d} a packet from Dr Colden enclosing a Letter to you & the State of the indian affairs herewith inclosed, he Desired me to peruse that State and if any thing occurred to me theron to be added or altered to make notes thereof to you, I have accordingly perused it again and again but find nothing that I think necessary to add to or alter in it nor Should I have troubled you with this had it not been that his Ex^{cy} our Govr Sent me yesterday, a Letter to him from the Govr of Canada of Augt 10th instant for

M.r Alexander
M.r Kennedy
M.r Chief Justice } M.r Holland.

His Excellency communicated a Letter from Lindesay at Oswego of the 24th June last with an Account of the Arrival of some Twightwee Indians there Who spoke of their good Disposition towards the English and their Enmity to the French. On which he gave them a speedy Dismission.

Ordered that a proclamation be prepared further to prorogue the General Assembly to Tuesday the seventeenth day of September next.

His Excellency was pleased to take Notice to the Council that the Office of second Justice of the Supreme Court of this Province being vacant by the Death of Frederick Philipse Esq.r he proposed to grant that Office to John Chambers Esq.r during good Behaviour. To which the Council unanimously agreed and commended. Whereupon it was ordered that a Majesty's Letters patent be prepared accordingly.

At a Council held at Fort George in the City of New York the thirty first day of July 1751

Present His Excellency the Hon.ble George Clinton Capt.n Gen.l &c.
M.r Alexander } M.r Holland
M.r Kennedy }

John Chambers Esq.r second Justice of the Supreme Court of this Province took and subscribed the usual State Oaths and repeated and subscribed the Declaration by Law appointed and also took an Oath for the due Execution and performance of his said Office.

At a Council held at Fort George in the City of New York

Monday the thirtieth day of September 1751

Present His Excellency the Hon.ble George Clinton Capt.n Gen.l &c.
M.r Colden } M.r Murray
M.r Kennedy }
M.r Chief Justice } M.r Allen

Adjourned.

[illegible] City and County of New
[illegible] of the City and County of New
Coroner of the said City and County for
Saunders Esq.r to be Mayor and Clerk of the
[illegible]ty and Richard Miller Esq.r to be High Sheriff of
[illegible]ty of Albany, for the year ensuing the said Sheriff to
[illegible]ter into Recognizance with sufficient Sureties as usual for
[illegible]rformance of his Office.

His Excellency communicated a Letter of the 15 Ult.o from Mr. Cornelius Cuyler, Lately sent to Canada with Dispatches from his Excellency Mr. French Governour. Signifying to his Excellency that on his Arrival he did not find any of the Indians of the six Nations but that all of them Chiefs had been gone those just before his Departure.

Also a Letter from the Governor of Canada to his Excellency of the 10th which it is ordered to be entered and is as follows ---

A Montreal le 10 aouts 1751.

Monsieur

La Lettre que Votre Excellance ma fait lhonneur de mecrire par M. Cornelius Cuyler le 12 juin dernier nomes parvenuë que le 3 de ce mois,

Vous ne pouvez pas vous plaindre, Monsieur, de — letablissement que jay fait faire au bas du portage de Niagara, moins encore pouvez vous pretendre que cest une usurpation Sur les terres des Sujets du Roy votre maitre. Autant auroit il valu que Votre excellence eut dit que jay anticipé Sur les terres du Roy de la grande Bretagne, Car S'il etoit vray que Les Iroquois des Cinq nations fussent de Sujets, Leurs terres appartiendroient incontestablement — a S. M. B.

Voila cependant, Monsieur, le fondement que vous avez voulu donner a Votre plainte.

Ma reponce va vous convaincre qu'il n'est pas Solide.

C'est très mal apropos et Contre vos propres Lumieres que vous qualifiez les Cinq nations de Sujets du Roy votre m.e ils ne Lont jamais ete et vous n'auriez garde de former un Semblable prétention, Si avis d'eux, vous les traitez avec beaucoup plus de menagement et il est a naitre qu'ils aient regardé les anglais, autrement que comme leurs hotes ce qui est une preuve Sensible que bien loing de les — reconnoitre pour leurs maitres, ils S'en declareroit au —

a Mr. Clinton Gr.r de New york 21.456 Contrair

[illegible] pourroient
[illegible]ion du Roy mon maitre
[illegible], les y porteroit.

Monsieur, vous n'ignorez pas [illegible]
[illegible]ciennes et modernes en font foy, que [illegible]
[illegible] premiers Blancs qui aïent paru sur
Cinq nations, c'est avec eux qu'ils se sont
d'amitié! c'est d'eux qu'ils ont reçu leurs prem
aussi dés le moment ont-ils nommé les fra
Leur pere

Il est donc Constant que les françois aïant les premi
dans les terres des Iroquois, ils en ont dés ce moment pris p
et cette possesion n'a point été interrompuë,
Or Si ces terres etoient Susceptibles de Contestation en
Rois nos maitres et que la question eut été agitée l
traittés d'Utrech et d'aix La Chapelle, elle n'auroit pû e
justice qu'etre decidée en faveur de la france,
Mais les Iroquois veulent Seuls être les maitres de leur
ils ne Cessent de dire que c'est Dieu qui les leurs a donnés
ne reconnoissent que Luy Seul pour maitre et Souverai
ce qu'ils ont Signifié par des actes authentiques au
anglais et aux françois.
J'ajoutes que dans les guerres que les françois ont eu
eux, apres avoir conquis leurs terres, ils les leur ont
rendu et les ont remis dans leur droits, par des traitt
Solemnelles.
De tous cela il faut Conclure que rien n'a pû
authoriser votre Excellence a se recrier de l'etablisse
que j'ay fait faire, Il a été fait au Vû et Sçu des Iro
des Cinq Nations Seuls competants pour Se plaindre
ne S'y Sont point opposé, ils y ont Consenty et ont reco
qu'il contribuoit autant a leur bien, qu'a celuy des
françois, ce n'est qu'un hospice, un entrepots de l'ivr
Un refuge pour les Voyageurs françois dupaïs d'Enhau
Je n'aurois jamais pensé que vous eussiez reclamé les
quatre Anglais qui ont été arretés, attendu qu'ils ont
avoir une permission du Gouverneur de Philadelphie
qu'aucun d'eux nome Layant exhibée, ils Sont Cens
gens Sans aveu et Coureurs de Bois

Mais Comme

année 1749 a la
rquis de la Galissoniere qui
e du Roy mon maitre Les poses
été de ces terres, qu'il somma tous
ais qui y etoient de se retirer, qu'il ecri
verneur de Philadelphie pour L'informer q
mplir sa mission et Le prevenir que Si dans Les
paroissoit des traitteurs anglais dans La belle
Ls seroient traittés sans aucun ménagement.
J'eus L'honneur de vous ecrire moy meme Le 7 mars
a cette occasion et de prier Votre Excellence de rendre
ordonnance pour deffendre a tous Les Sujets de La nou
anglettere d'aller traiter Sur les terres du Roy mon M
par La meme Lettre j'eus aussi L'honneur de vous teme
ma juste Sensibilité a tous les mouvements Secrets qu
anglais faisoient pour induire Les Sauvages, qui de
tems nous ont été Le plus étroitement attachés, a la
destruction des francais.
Quoique vous ne m'aiez honnoré d'aucune reponse
Néanmoins je me flattois que vous prendriez des justes
Mesures pour arreter Le cours de toutes ces Seductions et
Maintenir de votre coté L'union qui doit regner entre
J'ais Les Suittes m'ont détrompé Les anglais bien loi
de se renfermer dans Les bornes des possessions du Roy
de La grande Bretagne, non contants de se multiplie
de plus en plus dans La riviere a la Roche, d'y avoir des
maisons et Magasins ouverts, ils ont encore porté leurs
vas, jusqu'a La Vuë du détroit, meme dans Le fond
des Miamis,
Ce procédé Succedant a tant de mauvais propos dont nou
n'eprouvons que trop Les Suittes facheuses, ont mis M.
Celoron commendant au Détroit dans La Necessité
faire arreter ces Anglais
Il en a d'abord été arreté trois a Ayououtsut, lieu q
Nicolas Chef huron rebele avoit Choisy pour Y fortifie
1747 pres du petit Lac d'Otsandorket, c'est a dire a dix
Lieux de La ville du Destroit, ces trois anglais Se nomm
Lue arowin Irlandois de nations habitant de Celle
Joseph Fortin habitant de la ville de Liege et Thomas
habitant de Linguester.

21 Mai Enfin

[illegible] now at his [illegible]
[illegible] from Cadaraqui. That he imm[illegible]
[illegible] Excellency's Name through all the Nat[illegible]
with the March of the French that Way—
from Lieutenant Lindesay and a Letter from [illegible]
the 19th July from Oswego containing the same [illegible]
That on the 15th July Attirananey arrived at Oswego
Missisagas where he had been to negotiate an Alli[illegible]
that Nation That all the old Sachems were dead and yo[illegible]
Men put in their places who confirmed their old Alli[illegible]
tho they were solicited by the French not to make any [illegible]
with the six Nations. That he was at Cadaraqui w[illegible]
the French were building a large Ship which he was told
intended to take Oswego with. And that he drank it with
Oswego eight Fighting Men of the Missisaga Nation who
going with them against the Cadaraqui Indians which L[illegible]
Lindesay had endeavoured to prevent but was uncertain
he had succeeded.

Reflect the Sending Missionaries among Indians.

A Letter from Governour Wolcot of the 6th Inst. acknowledg[illegible]
the Receit of a Copy of the Report of a Committee of the Council o[illegible]
19 July last and acquainting his Excellency that he entirely
approves of the sending Missionaries among the six Nations
thinks this Step should be first recommended to the Legislature o[illegible]
this province and when mentioned to the other Governments
and of their chearful Compliance.

Letter from the Govr. of Pensilvania giving the Grant & Limits of Land to the E. to begin at the Mouth of Kiskiminitas & to run with the Boundary intended.

A Letter from Governour Hamilton of the 13th Instant Inviting
Notice that Col. Johnson and some other Gentlemen have obtain[illegible]
Warrant for laying out upwards of 100,000 Acres of Land on the
Branch of Susquehanah River to adjoin the Line of that Prov[illegible]
That as the Northern Boundary of Pensilvania is not yet fixe
they may for want of due Information probably survey Land
within that Province which may hereafter occasion Disputes
to arise which he desires his Excellency to signify to the Parties
concerned that he will use the Interposition of it that they ma[illegible]
if they please take immediate Measures for settling their Northern

Boundary

against the Exceptions

ordered that the said Letter be referred to a Committee
any three of them and that they make Report thereon
immediately may be.

The following Warrants having been read as usual to
his Excellency Viz.t

889	To his Excellency the Governour for his Salary ending 1st Inst.		
890	To the Chief Justice ——— for Do ———		
891	To the second Justice from the 1st June to the 26th July last ———		
892	To the Secretary for his Salary ending the 1st Instant ———		
893	To the Clerk of the Council for Do ———		
894	To the Doorkeeper of the Council for Do ———		
895	To the Printer for Do ———		12
896	To the Sheriff for Do ———		7
897	To Cash paid Sheriff Waters from 1st June to the 5th August last ———		5
898	To Cash paid Undersheriff for his Salary ending 1st Instant ———		15
899	To the Keeper of the Gaol of Albany for Do ———		5
900	To John Van Ness Esqr for 1200 Candles for the Gaol at Albany, Schenectady & Kill William from 1st Sept 1750 to 1st Sept 1751	250	
901	To John Cuyler Esqr for supplying the Troops posted at Saratoga with Provisions from the 1st November 1750 to 1st May 1751	228.0	
902	To Do for the like from the 1st May 1751 to 1st November next	228.0	

At a Council held at Fort George in the City of New York the ninth day of October 1751

Present

His Excellency the Hons.ble George Clinton Capt. Gen.l &c.

Mr. Golden	Mr. Murray
Mr. Kennedy	Mr. Willett
Mr. Chief Justice	Col. Johnson

Mr. Holland Chairman of the Committee to whom the Letter from Governour Hamilton of the 13th Instant was referred Read a Report delivered in at the Table the Committee's Report thereon which the same was again read and on the Question being put

personnel
pera lhonneur devous
jay eu pour luy et que je
pour toute les affaires qu'il a eu
Colonie, quoy que les français n'y ayen
tement ny indirectement.
poura vous dire aussy combien je desire Since
tablir L'intelligence La plus parfaitte entre les
Gouvernements, c'est a quoy je m'attacheray toujou
que Votre Excellence joindra ces soins aux miens,
n'aurons pas de peine a y reussir.
Je ne dois pas vous Cacher, Monsieur, que le S.r Cuy
deputé a amené icy avec luy le S.r Jean Cuyler Son
duquel il n'est point fait mention dans Son passepo
ma été raporté que Ledit Jean Cuyler qui est un Com
traittoit Laffaire de Commerce avec les français, mem
avec Les Sauvages et quil etoit toujours en conference a
eux dans La maison ou il a été Logé en Cette ville, ce
ne convient nullement,
Jay lhonneur de prevenir Votre Excellence, que je donn
mes ordres pour qu'on renvoie dans La Nouvelle angle
tous les Anglais qui Viendront dans Cette Colonie Sans
avoir un passeport de Leur Gouverneur.
J'attendray avec impatience votre reponce.
Jay lhonneur d'etre avec Respect
Monsieur
Votre très humble et tres
obeissant Serviteur
——— Ajonquiere ———

His Excellency then acquainted the Council that he had sent a Co
of the said Letter to his Majesty's Ministers and another to
Governour Hamilton.
And then the following Letters were read viz.t A Letter from S.r
Johnson acquainting his Excellency that a Party of his men co

[illegible] precieuses.,
[illegible] voicy La preuve,
[illegible] Ces Anglais N'ignoroit le
[illegible] fit aux traiteurs anglais en
[illegible] publiques dans tous les lieux de la Nou
par Consequent ils Sont dans Leur tort,
Ny Sont pas renfermés.
2°. on ne peut pas dire qu'ils fussent a Ayono
faire Leur traitte avec Les Sauvages, par ce qu'ils
Munis que de presents pour Leur distribuer.
3°. Il est Si evident qu'ils vouloient tenir un Conse
Sauvages, a tous egards funeste aux francais, q
campé dans un Lieu que Nicolas Chef huron
aux français avoit choisy pour Sy fortifier, ils Vou
Sans doute porter Les Sauvages a avoir Les memes Senti
que Nicolas et Sattacher le plus accredité
faire revivre Ce chef qui est mort et faire executer
inique projet.
4°. Ce qu'il y a de remarquable et de décisif. C'est
Chef de ces trois anglais nommé Luc Arrowin po
toutes Les Langues Sauvages, est habitué dans les
d'Enhaut et est tres Capable de Les faire Souscrire, a
qu'il Souhaite.
Cette preuve est Si parfaitte, qu'elle est Sans replique
Quant a Jean Cathin, il etoit allé dans le fort des
Mioamis pour déterminer les Sauvages qui y ont rest
Se joindre a ceux qui Se Sont refugiés a la belle rivie
été pris dans le fort français, il n'en faut pas d'avanta
Le peu d'effets qui ont été Saisis a Ces prisonniers, ont é
reclamés par les Sauvages, atitre de pilliage.
Ils n'ont point été maltraittés, M: Cuyler en a tiré trois
Cette ville qui Sont Libres et qui ne manque de rien.
il n'a tenu qu'a Jean Cachin de jouir de La meme Liber
mais il est Si Mutin et a fait tant de Menaces que j
obligé de le faire mettre en prison a Quebec.
Vous voyez, Monsieur, que les traitteurs anglais n'ont
aucun Menagement, que rien n'est capable de les con
et qu'ils redoublent leurs efforts pour Soulever les nations
Sauvages contre les français, il est tems d'y remedier et
vous ne Saurez le faire assez promptement.

Si aucun Sauvage

The Comtee appointed to Confer with the Indians of the Six Nations about their settling within this Province &c went to Stockbridge on the 10th of August Agreable to the Proposal made to them by the Comissioners at Albany sometime before, and having waited three days, the Considerable number of the Mohawks chiefly of the Canoeinge Tribe arrived, viz, Hendrick their head, and most of the Sachems of that Tribe — to the number of about eighteen or twenty, which with some of their wives and Children made with those we found at Stockbridge, about one hundred — And on the 15th Augt. The said Comtee pursuant to the order of the General Court on Feb. 6. and of April 3d last, told the said Indians as follows, viz (Capt. Kellog, the Interpreter)

Augt 15. That we are glad to see you with your wives and Children so many of you here, we thank God for preserving you in your Journey, that your feet have not hit against a Stone — Upon the news of your coming we immediately ordered refreshment for you shall further order for your Supply, are sorry some of your number are sick, shall take the best care of them we are able —

2. You came at the call of the General Court of this Province; Some of us met some of you here last year, and then told you that the General Court from their hearts desire to have your Children taught to read and write and to learn the Christian Religion. Some of you who were then here have made some trial the last winter, and till this day, we hope you have found matters as we then said —

3. — The General Court have sent us to meet you again and have ordered us to acquaint you, that their friendship to you continues firm, their desire to have

you taught the Religion of Jesus Christ, greal and Unishakon
4th The G. Court have impower given us order to conferr with
you farther about those matters and to make some further pro
:posals to you, we hope they will please you;
Interpr. Tell them, In the name of the great Court of this
Province, we promise and assure you, that they
will give you Land, good Lands, in, for you and
your Families, on condition you are inclined
to settle among us, and if upon further trial you
you should find this agreable to them, the Encrease
as seed sown should spring up to a great Mul
:titude, there shall be no want of Land for them
you and your Families—
Some Persons we hear have told you, we only
design to make Slaves of you and your Families;
we assure you, that 'tis a falshood; [Ask the Stock-
:bridge Indians whether that has been the conduct
this Province towards them—] This offer made you
make you Slaves or any ways
is not to hurt or injure you but that you and your
Children may be instructed in the principles of the
Christian Religion— We desire to talk with
you freely upon these things, that you would
open your minds fully before we parte— And
then we gave them a Belt of Wampam for confir
:mation— 13. The Belt we gave them, the Indians
belonging to Stockbridge presented this Government
with, as an Instance of Gratitude for their good
:ness to them, and of their being well affected to
& kind design of Instructing and Gospellizing
of the other Indian Tribes

Aug. 16 The Mohawks returned their Answer as follows
Viz— Hendrick said, I'm the name of the Rest—

1 The Brandt ~~Viz this Province~~ the Governr of Boston &c You were pleased to tell us your minds yesterday, We come now to make an answer— We expected to be informed about antient things that were transacted between us— when all the nations were at Boston, an Offer was then made to educate our Children in case we would send them to Boston; They who had the care of the affair are since dead, ~~we hear by hearsay report~~ as we hear— a Silver Box with the Province seal in it was then presented with a Belt of Wampam affixed to it— The Belt is not preserved, The Box is now with us, a token and memorial of the proposal, ~~then~~ and here it is and then shewed it— This transaction you seemed not to have known or forgotten— tho we have not— A motion of the same import was made to us three years ago

2 but the war prevented us, Two of us were here the last winter but were not capable of acting till they went home— We are now come with power to transact— and upon the whole we look on it as an Important matter viz Religion. We own God's hand in it, and we would not act contrary to his will— We have concluded to accept of the Offer of Instruction for our Children, and return our thanks— And then gave a Belt of Wampam, and added, ~~They~~ We have now opened a Door and when we go home we will invite others to come in—

3 Let every thing be done right so that no uneasiness on either side take place You told us to talk freely about this matter, and to open our minds fully— If any difficulty happen among the Stockbridge Indians, it is to be taken care of, and they belong to you and I will be

"It will be your business to remove it.
" promisses have often been made that care should be taken
' of the Children, they are not cloathed so well as they
are at home, there is danger of their being discouraged.
" Since all must come out, let us ask freely what is
done for Ashley and his Wife Who is the Interpreter?
Martin, (Kellog) cant understand — If Rebeka was not
here nothing could be done [Rebeka is Ashleys Wife]
All things are in God. She may dye, what will be the case then!
who will take care of the affair? Wee have done for y^e
present, but yet something farther, wee must inform you
that wee were almost Starved on the Road, Wee bought
5 Sheep for our Support, trust you will pay for them —

Oct. 17. Wee reply^d as follows, Viz — Brethren, you told us Yester-
day, that you expected at our first meeting to have been
enlightned with a Rehearsal of transactions between
us in former times, but we had not done it, that you
remembred them, tho we seemed to have forgot them
and particularly you told us that when all the Nations
were at Boston, the Government there offered and promissed
you that if you would send your Children to Boston
They should be instructed, and you Shew us the Pro-
vince Seal within a Silver Box on the outside of
delivered to you, on the part of the Government,
We now tell you, we are not wholly unacquainted
with those matters, but had reason to think it would
be matter of grief to you to mention it, as you
did not then accept of the kind proposal, which
had you done we may reasonably think that
Some of your own Children before their time might
have been great Men and good Ministers.
You also told us that three years ago, a Motion of the
same import was made to you, but the War prevented
the two Men came, but they could not act for the

Upon this we would Observe to you that by your account you have had the offer to have your Children Instructed by this Province again and again but you have not accepted - To have mentioned this perhaps would have moved your grief -

But upon our Call at this time you are come and say that tis a matter of great weight, tis Religion, and you acknowledge Gods hand in these things and will not act contrary to him, you are now all agreed to accept the offer thankfully, and add that now you have opened the door not only for your own Tribe but for the other nations whom you will invite to come, telling them they may come freely and without danger, * We receive it gladly and rejoyce with all our hearts that God seems to dispose you to receive ye knowledge of the truth -

You say that your Children who were here last winter are not now cloathed so well as when they came from home, We wish their Cloathing were better Capt. Kellog has now got cloathing for them, we hope they will not want again -

We agree with you that tis best every thing should be now done plainly to prevent difficulty for ye future, and yet tis to be expected in great and new affairs that some difficulties may happen - especially at the beginning -

As to what you mention respecting the Stockbridge Indians; these w^d acquaint you, that as we have no thoughts of hurting them, so we expect no Complaints Complaints from them -

You ask as to Ashley and his Wife, what is done for them? We tell you they are our People and care will be taken that they have Justice done them -

You also enquire what will be done if Ashley's wife

* and Messengers sent to invite all the Indians to come to Albany, to receive Instruction

Dyer 2 As to this, We wd remind you, that you say all things
are in GOD, and so you have no reason to distrust but that
the affair will be carried on by other Instruments, as they
shall see fit — As to ye difficulties in
The Journey thro the woods for want of Provisions, we would
observe upon this, that you could not expect that we could
prevented it considering that we did not and could not k
-till some of you arrived here when you w^d come or whether
you would come at all, however we are sorry it so hap
:pened, We trust that unexpected accidents, will not discou
:rage you in the greater affair and Charge of your settl
among us, in order to your Instruction and the Instru
:tion of your Children —

We told you two days ago that if you were inclin
to settle with us you sh^d be provided with Pro:
:vince Lands &c. Your answer was that you accep
:ted the offer to instruct you &c but you was not
particular as to the offer of Lands for your settle
:ment, Let us understand you upon that head, wha
Lands would suit you, Let us conferr freely upo
that matter that neither you nor we might be mi
:der any mistake — And then Hendric told u
they were there upon the Land, Where the School w
We told them, in the offer of Lands for y^r settlem
we said nothing of that Land nor intended it,
forasmuch as they were Land devoted for the Sto
by the Stockbrige Indians, They were the owners o
that Land and not the Province, that therefore the
Province could not give it, were it otherwise n
so proper — Then they answered, here we are
Shew and tell us the Land you propose —

after this We went and viewed the Hop-Lands (as they
are called, Lying N. East of Stockbridge about three
or four mile

or four mile from the Land on which is the
School house — And when we returned we told them
We likewise conferred with the Stockbridge Indians
about a large Tract in their Township, by some thot.
to be suitable for y^t purpose, but they declined
to exchange or any ways to alienate it — And there
Aug. 21 We returned and told the Mohawks as follows, Viz.
" Two days ago we viewed the hop-Lands and think
" they will accomodate you, and design as soon as y^e
" matter can be accomplished to have that Tract or
" some other convenient Tract laid out for you.
And that by the mean time the Stockbridge Indi-
ans had assured us they were content and easy to
have them tarry where they were at pres^t viz on the
School Lands till other Lands could be provided for
you — They answered twas well, and desired, their
business for the present being done that they might
not be delayed from returning home as soon as may
be — We told them we would say all that remained
in the morning

Aug. 22 You told us yesterday, that your business being
done for the present, you should be glad not to be
delayed from returning home as soon as may be,
we told you we would say all that remained at
this Interview this morning — which is this, That
these things lying there viz the Present we give
you, to be received as a Token of the Friend-
ship of the Govern^r and General Court —
The powder and Shot your young men to divert them
selves with in killing Game on your Journey home
And this viz the money is to defray your charges
home, and we are sorry you met with difficulty in

In your Journey hither, we have taken care to have John Venaltin paid for the Sheep he let you have in your Way—

Wee Shall now return and acquaint the Governor and General Court with what has passed between us, That you thankfully accept of the offer of Land for your Settlement within their Province, and that you say, you have now opened a Door, and when you return home you will invite your own Tribe and those of the other Tribes to come &c

Wee wish you a good Journey Home, that you may find all things well there—

The next day, There were about fifty that set out for home intending some of them to send some of their Children before winter— about fifty the most of them Children remained at Stockbridge— As to what relates to the School, the S.d Com.tee would further report that Mr. Martin Kellog, who has had the care of a Number of Indian Boys the Charge of whose Support and Education Mr. Hollis has defrayed for some years past, yet the last year, S.d Kellog not having heard from Mr. Hollis for a considerable time was discouraged from taking any further care of S.d School, Upon which the General Court by their Com.tee viz. Josiah Dwight Esq.r and Capt. John Ashley agreed with the S.d Mr. Kellog to take the care of S.d School at a certain rate pr Annum, viz. Two thirds of 500 D.s Currency the Government of Connecticut would supply

supply the Rest; However Mr. Kellog informed us that
he had since received advice and direction from
Mr. Hollis to continue his care of the Scholars and to
augment their number from Twelve to Twenty four
at his charge; Wee thereupon enquired of S.r Mr. Kellog
whether he w.d renew his care of the School at Mr. Hollis
Charge, he replied that he would, and that he had then
viz Aug.t 23.d taken into his School Seventeen Children of the Mohawk
Tribe, purposing to make up the number of twenty
four from the Children of the Indians belonging
to Stockbridge; Upon this, it was proposed to him by
the Com.tee That as the School House was not finish
:ed, and there were no convenient apartments, where
:in the said twenty four, and the other Children now
there, could be instructed separately, Whether it would
not be best to have all the Children taught in one
Room (His Brother Ashley and his Wife assisting
therein as they had for time past) till the
sitting of the General Court, when they or the Commissio:
:ners, if they thought proper would give farther
orders about the House? He replied, no, he was
Independent in his School, and inclined to keep
it seperately, and that he had scarcely room
end.d for his own Scholars; he was told that
he might be Independent in some respects, as
he now had y.e Care of a Small school at the Charge
and under the direction of Mr. Hollis, yet he was
to consider that Mr. Hollis had not a better
right to that House than the General Court or
the Commissioners. Hereupon Mr. Ashley was
desired to instruct the other Children by him
self till further order.

And the Comtee would farther report that they have viewed the Hop Lands (as they are called) belonging to ~~some Inhabitants of Sheffield~~ within the Township of Sheffield, situate N. East of Stockbridge, which they are a Convenient Spot for the Settlement of the Indians of the Six Nations, that do or may incline to settle within this Province — They belong to about Ten Proprietors, The Honble James Boidoin Esqr Heirs and David Ingersol Esqr own about the one half — The Comtee have Conferd with the Principal Owners about respecting their Exchanging s.d Lands & who appear willing thereto — and the other Proprietors one or two Excepted, are willing also, as the Comtee are Informed by Mr Ingersol — who likewise acquainted us he Should be at Court this Session

The Tract above.d contains about three mile Square —

Which is humbly Submitted

Joseph Dwight Jun.r

In Council Octo 2. 1751. Read & Sent down

Conferd with the Six Nations
2. Octr 8. 1751

Govern[r] & Council
13th Octob[r] Recd
4th & 5th Novem[r] 1751
Read in Council
said day.

13 Their Letter
to be sent back
to me on your
return home
with your
Account of all
your Proceedings
in the Affair
in relation to y[e] Catawbaws

Octo 15th : 1751

I had the honour of a letter from you by Captain Schoonerhoan informing me that you had made Peace between your Indians & their Nations and our Catawbaws and think it my duty to return you my kind thanks for the great pains and trouble you have taken in this matter. This Peace may I think if improved have an excellent effect for it will shew how much the English Govern and may live in friendship with them and will consequently attach them more to the British Interest especially if care is taken to let them see that they are set together by the Ears by the French whose design is evidently to make them war when one another that they may be less able to resist them and their Indians.

Mr Bull writes that after you left Wateree in some conferences that he had with the Cherokees in the Mountainous Country they thought it necessary that the Catawbaws should return with the Prisoners that they had this fall and the Interpreter upon his first Arrival said that they had only concluded a Cessation of Arms for which reason I pressed the

Catawbaws

Catawbaw to Charlestown home and bring the Prisoners but finding that they delayd I sent an Express to quicken them but they inform me that their Nation is very sickly at present and they beg to be excused till the Spring and then they will certainly set off for the tried Nations with their Prisoners I must therefore pray the favour of you to give it to your Indians the reason of the delay and I hope you will do it the more readily as you mentioned nothing of the Exchange of Prisoners till the Spring, some of your People who I presume have not heard of the Peace have been taken at the Catawbaw Nation at War and have killed a Man and a Woman and Son informed that the Lace could easily have killed them but they thought their hands bound by the Collar of Wampum which they brought from Albany and chose rather to put up with the Loss than by revenging it do anything that might injure the late Peace, however they have desired me to transmit to you these Instruments which your People left sticking in the Mans head and breast, and the Arrow with which they were killed, for they missed with their Guns

I hope you will send them to the Ind.ns and along with them an account of our People's behaviour and that you will recommend it to them to give the strongest charge to all their People to desist from hostilities. I am with great respect, Sir

Your most Obed.t & most hum.ble Serv.t

James Clinton

Geo.e Clinton

MARINE ET COLONIES ARCHIVES

anada.

a quebec le 9.bre 1751.

M. de la jonquiere

118

Monseigneur

des allé visiter les sauvages de Saint Louis du Lac des deux Montagnes qui l'ont bien reçu

Mariné

J'ay l'honneur de vous rendre compte que depuis mon arrivée dans cette Colonie, le P.e Jacquin des hurons de St Louis du Lac des deux montagnes m'a pressé de visiter ces deux villages; je leur ay donné cette satisfaction cette année, après avoir expedié les convois des Postes d'Iroquois. ces deux missions ne laissent pas que d'être considerables, les Sauvages m'y ont très bien reçu, et n'ont rien dû les bonnes militaires, J'ay été visiter dans les chefs et guerriers dans leurs cabanes dont la plupart sont aussi bien batties que les maisons des françois, J'y ai vu même qu'il y a dans magazins remplis de marchandises anglaises et qu'ils ne laissent

pas que d'être refusé dans le commerce, je
n'ay pas manqué de leur deffendre le commerce
étrangers, mais les françois leur donnent
l'exemple; surtout aux Sauls de St Louis.

Les habitants des St françois et de
ces cantons mont également sollicité
de les aller voir, je compte faire ce petit
voyage l'année prochaine

Je suis avec un très profond respect

De Monseigneur

Votre très humble et
obéissante servante
Bourgmont

Canada.

Quebec le 19. 8.bre 1751.

M. de la Jonquiere 127

à Monseigneur

d'ffaille d'engager le Commis
d'aranger ces Sauvages de
maniere qu'ils soient privés de
aller Anglois en fraude de nos
Marchandises

MARINE ET COLONIES
ARCHIVES

Marmet

J'ai l'honneur de vous rendre compte
l'année derniere de l'ordonnance que j'avois
rendû et des mesures que j'avois prises pour
arrester le commerce que certains mauvais
Français de cette colonie font avec les
anglais, Je n'ay point discontinué de
donner mes ordres en conséquence aux
Commendants des postes, mais les
Marchandises ne sauvoient se priver
de l'avantage qu'ils trouvent en
faisant vendre leur castor aux anglais.

J'avois d'abord deffendû aux
Sauvages de la Baie et du Lac de porter
leur castor dans la Nouvelle Angleterre,
mais ces Sauvages me dirent qu'autant

vaudroit ibelle volontiers, que de les
priver des marchandises qu'ils trouvent
chez les anglais, Je ne pûs me résoudre à
instances, quelque envie que j'eusse d'en
avoir aucun egard. Je voulus neanmoins
commencer à les assujétir une peu pas
ou trop mon volonté et pour cet effet Je
donnay ordre aux Commendants du fort
et du Lac de faire un etat exact de
Castor que chacque sauvage auroit
chez luy de sa chasse pour porter chez
anglais, Je fis même plus, j'en reduis
la quantité eu egard à ce qui leur est
necessaire pour leur besoins et j'arrêtay
cet Etat. Je donnay ordre en même tems
aux Commendants de délivrer une
permission relative au dit etat à chaq
sauvage qui sortiroit du castor.

Comme je ne m'étois pas que les
sauvages passeroient les bornes de cet
permissions, Je destinay deux officiers
et deux petits détachements de soldats
de Gardes L'entretien pour la Compagnie
pour un fort à Toulouse et l'autre au

dessous du Long Sault pour y passer tous
les canots des gens d'Iroquois et ceux qui
vont chez les Anglais avec ordre de
visiter les dits canots et de se saisir de
tout le castor excédant les dites permissions
et des marchandises anglaises qui seroient
dans les dits canots, ainsi que des sauvages
qui en auroient la conduite. Jordonnons
aussi à ces officiers de faire des
perquisitions dans les habitations, et
de se saisir pareillement des marchandises
prohibées qu'ils y trouveroient. ce
détachement nous occasionnera aucune
dépense au Roy, la Compagnie en
supportera les frais, attendu qu'elle en reçoit
tout l'avantage.

Je ne saurois pour, Monseigneur,
pourvoir prendre des plus justes mesures
pour porter atteinte au commerce
étranger en attendant de l'abolir
entièrement dans les suites, la chose
ne seroit pas bien aisée, à moins de
l'interdire aux Iroquois du Sault
du Lac et de ne leur faire aucun gracq

les cas de contravention, ce qui seroit
capable de leur faire perdre l'esprit, car
d'un côté l'appas du gain les séduit et
de l'autre les françois les intimident
ce commerce et le font eux mêmes en
se cachant de leurs supérieurs. Il est
difficile d'exprimer combien ces
sauvages sont secrets, ils n'avoient pas
qu'ils descelleroient les françois qui se
serviroient d'eux pour faire ce commerce
et neanmoins quelque recompense que
leur age assuré, Jeluy qu'il avoit aucune
revelation de leurs pas.

Je vous supplie, Monseigneur, d'être
bien persuadé que je continuerai mes
soins. et si je parviens a connoitre quelq
françois, Jeluy feray faire son procès a
toute rigueur, suivant les ordonnances
du Roy.

Je suis avec un très profond respect

De Monseigneur

Votre très humble et très
obeissant serviteur

Dumont

Canada.

Quebec le 29. 8.bre 1751.

No de la page précédente 148.

A Monseigneur

Mgr

Mgr

J'ay l'honneur de vous rendre compte de la conseil que j'ay tenu le 11 Juillet dernier avec les Nations des Cinq Nations en presence des Chefs Iroquois du Sault et du Lac, des Abenaquis des St François et des Hurons Sinagos et Kiskakous de Missilimakinack dont ci joint copie, ce conseil est des plus solennels, vous verrés, a Monseigneur, que nous y avons traité d'affaires interessantes

1°. Du renouvellement de la Iroquois du Sault qui vient été de faite par les Abenaquis

2°. Des nations qui sont sujets a la Colonie et les Cinq nations pretendent que les terres de cette partie leur appartiennent privativement a tous autres et que les François n'y ayent

d'Anglais ne sont point en droit d'y faire
aucun établissement. Je n'ay point manqué
de leur faire faire tous les réproches qu'ils
meritent et de leur dire nettement quel
sera mon maître est en droit de former
des établissements à la Belle rivière,
les anglais commencent, qu'il les fera
à leur dispute cette terre, même de les
en chasser.

2°. Nous avons renouvellé l'arbre en
traité de paix de M de Vallieres avec
toutes les ratifications. J'ay reproché aux
Cinq nations leur infidelité à chacun
article de ce traité

1°. Il a été question dans ce conseil de
l'établissement de M l'abbé Fiquet, je
leur ay dit qu'ils pouvoient si peu
se plaindre, qu'il avoit été fait à leur
sollicitation, je leur ay même
témoigné le mécontentement que
j'avois de tous les raisonnements
qu'ils avoient fait à cette occasion.

J'ay l'honneur, Monseigneur,
Vous envoyer aussi cy Joint, le compte

que j'ay tenu le 18 mois dernier avec les
Sauvages des Cinq nations pour —
le quel vous verrés que je les ay aussi
Invités a rapporter leurs gens qui sont
Sur Belleriviere et leur ay dit que s'ils
continuoient d'etre les Introducteurs de
paroles, colliers, haches et pavillons —
anglois chez les nations, Je serois forcé —
de les punir de leur infidelité.

Ils n'ont tous promis merveille, mais
J'aurois lieu de suspecter la sincerité de leurs
promesses, tant que les anglois les —
apprivoiseront.

Le 6 Juin dernier je donnay ordre au S.
Thebert de Joncaire Commendant au —
portage de Niagara, de se transporter sitot
que la traitte y auroit été faitte, chez les
Cinq nations pour les visiter, leur —
distribuer quatre colliers, leur porter ma
parolle, les assurer de mon amitié pour
eux et renouveller leur alliance avec les
Français.

Le Sr de Joncaire a remply sa
mission, Il est venu m'en rendre compte.

Il s'est transporté chez les Tsonnon-
ouaisons assemblés les Nouvelles, les
Onejoues, les Goyogouins et Taschenorins.
Il a donné à chaque village un collier,
leur a interprété une parolle et a renou-
vellé l'ancienne alliance, et le traité de
paix que Mr de Callieres avoit fait avec
leurs ancêtres.

Ces nations ont très bien reçu le
dit S. de Joncaire, elles luy ont témoig-
beaucoup de reconnoissance, à l'égard
que j'avois pour Eux, et bien chargé
de me dire qu'ils ne s'occuperoient de
que des bonnes affaires, que dans tou-
les occasions, ils me signifieroient leur
zele pour les François et que le prin-
prochain, ils viendroient me donner
répondre leurs parolles à ma parolle
s'ils avoient mes intentions sur toutes
choses.

Le dit S. de Joncaire a continué
les Exhortes à rester neutres, et nou
avions la guerre avec les Anglois, et
qu'ils luy eussent promis d'une comm

voix.

Elle ou devis'avoir été leu. —

Introduction des paroles et coutumes anglois chez les nations des pays d'Labrador ou promis qu'elle ne sera nouveauté point.

A l'égard de la Bellerivière, elle a été arrêté qu'elle ne permettroit point aux anglois d'y faire aucun établissement, mais elle en a jouté qu'elle ne commettroit pas non plus que les françois y en fissent.

Lorsque le S. de Jonquière en arrivé chez les Etchemins, une grande partie des guerriers des différentes nations, même des canots qui sont bien étroitement attachés aux anglois, étoient partis pour aller frapper sur les Abenakis et ce qui entretient dans le village a donné faire même route, sitôt les députés du dit S. de Jonquière, lesquels que ces partis étant soutenus par ceux qui doivent se former des guerriers du Sault, du Lac et de la Presentation,

Il y a lieu d'espérer que Lux ou les mais
que M de Vaudreuil Gouverneur de la
Louisiane a amusé contre ces Cherau
parviendront a leur entiere destruction
servir un grand bonheur, si les anglois
de la Caroline premnoient part dans cet
affaire et je ne laisserois pas échapper
cette occasion pour indisposer les Cinq
nations contre Lux.

Les Anglais qui nous presentent
congé ont envoyé un officier de la Caroli
avec 6. Chefs Cherokis a orange pour
tenter de faire la paix de leur nation avec
les Cinq nations. Les Gouverneur d'
orange, de la Mene de et de Boston
ly sont employés et pour cet effet ont fait
de tres belles offres, mais les Cinq nation
les ont rejetés et n'ont point voulu écouter
aucune proposition d'accommodement. Les
anglais ont même été obligés de faire
garder par des mousquetaires ces
Cherokis, afin que les Cinq nations
les n'avoient fait périr en presence des
anglais. A la Verité les anglois se

sous un peu laisser flechir, Il en dit
aux Cherakis de venir le printems
prochain les prisonniers qu'ils ont
chez eux, ce qui ne changera rien aux
dispositions des cinq nations qui ont
preuve dité d'egorger tous les Chevaux ci-
qui viendront chez eux.

Les S. de Joncaire ont que le
Gouverneur d'Orange avoit envoyé aux
Cinq nations un collier pour faire passer
aux Belle rivieres par lequel il avertit
les nations qui y sont établies de ne
J'avois fait partir mil hommes pour
aller détruire le village de Sonnioto et de là
venir détruire le reste des Cinq nations.
les Cinq nations lui ont assuré qu'ils n'y
avoit longtems que ce collier etoit parti
et qu'ils comptoient que les habitans
etoient fortifiés, Il leur fait dire que le
même collier aux Cinq nations que les
Gouverneurs de la Caroline et de
Philadelphie avoient envoyé du
monde, des armes et des munitions de
guerre aux Belle rivieres pour les mener

La chaz de se deffendre les Cinq nations
avoient ajouté foy a cette parolle et étoient
fort inquiets, les S. de Sorel leur a fait
que tous ce que les anglois disoient etoit
faux et pour les tranquilliser fit ouvrir
des branches de porcelaine a la Belle
riviere et dans tous les villages des Cinq
nations.

Les Tsonnontouans du petit rapide
et quelques Onnontagues qui sont réfugiés
a la Belleriviere ont changé les 2 de
Janvier deux porte trois branches de
porcelaine de leur pays, par lesquelles ils
me demandent a établir au bas du
portage de Niagara.

Vne deputation de Sonnontouans établis
chez les Cinq nations leur a fait même
trois autres branches porcelaine pour me
demander a etablir pareillement un
portage.

Voilà, e Monseigneur, le resultat
du voyage du dit S. de Sorel, vous voy
qu'il a tout vu, il a grandi ma bonne fe
je continuerai de leur faire faire le mem

voïage l'année prochaine. Dans le cas
conseil que je tiendray avec les Sau-
vages a Montreal, si elles viennent
icy voir, Je ne négligeray rien pour les
déterminer a remplir mes vües et pour les
a la Belle riviere et pour engager aux affaires
courantes.

A l'égard des Etablissemens que les
Etats unis et les Anglois nous demandé,
Je n'y vois aucune difficulté, Ils n'en auront
pas le Sol au Roy et Je ne doit pas manquer
de profiter de la bonne volonté de ces Sauvages
parceque cette petite division ne laissera
pas que d'affoiblir un peu les Cinq nations
qui ne sont que trop puissantes.

Je suis avec un très profond respect

De Monseigneur

Votre très humble et très
obeissant et serviteur

ARCHIVES COLONIES

New York

70

Province of New York
in
America.

New York
Council

Minutes of Council of the 15th and 19th July 1751.

Containing the Minutes of Council and the Conferences with the Indians at Albany in June and July 1751.

Copy.

No. 24.

Recd with Govr Clinton's Lett. dated ye 25th of Novbr 1751.

Recd January 23d 1752.
Read March 5th.

Together with
Printed Votes & Proceedings of the General Assembly of New York, from the 1st of October 1751 to the 23d of Novbr following

Minutes of Council of the 15th and 19th July 1751 Containing the Minutes of Council and the Conferences with the Indians at Albany in June and July 1751

At a Council held at Fort George in the City of New York the fifteenth day of July 1751.

Present

His Excellency the Hono.ble George Clinton Capt.n Gen.l &c.a

M.r Colden	M.r Chief Justice
M.r Alexander	M.r Murray
M.r Kennedy	M.r Holland

His Excellency Communicated the Minutes of the Council during his Stay at Albany, which were referred to the perusal and Examination of the Gentlemen of the Council present at the Treaty lately held there with the Indians; and being perused and Examined accordingly were Ordered to be Entered, together with the Several Speeches made by his Excellency to the Indians, and their answers thereto. Also M.r Bull's Speech made to them, with their Answer and Governor Glen's Letter to the Six Nations, and other Indians meeting at Albany. Which are as follows.

Minutes of Council at Albany and of Conferences with the Indians there ordered to be entered

At a Council held at Albany the twenty Eighth day of June 1751.

Present

His Excellency the Hono.ble George Clinton Capt.n Gen.l &c.a

The Hono.ble { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander } { James De Lancey, Edward Holland } Esq.rs

Ordered That a proclamation be Issued to forbid the Selling

Proclamation to forbid selling Strong Liquors

Selling

Liquors to the Indians

Selling or giveing any Strong Liquors to the Indians during his Excellency's Treaty with them.

July 1st

At a Council held at Albany the first day of July 1751.

Present

His Excellency the Honourable George Clinton

The Hono^ble { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James De Lancey, Edward Holland } Esquires

Report from the Commanding Officer at Onnego, giving an Account of Indian Sachems going to Canada to forbid the building of Forts in the Territories of the five Nations &c.

Read Lieutenant Lindesay's Report from Onnego, from 24th May, to 20th June 1751. Giving an Account of some Onondaga Sachems going to the Governor of Canada, by Consent of the five Nations, to forbid the Building Forts in their Country, which he could not prevent.

That the Young Red Head came and Conyed away to Canada four Squaghs.

That some Ottawawa Indians told him, that Kinnack with a hundred more of them, had taken Six English Traders, and carried them to Niagara, which made a very great Noise.

That Kindaundie an Oneyda Sachem, came in his way to Canada, to Joyn the Red Head, which would have been of very bad Consequence, but he perswaded him, and some other Indians of the Oneyda Castle, by giveing them a present in his Excellency's name, on which they desisted.

That three Canoes with some of the five Nations came thither, with some Cochnawaga and Sienundie Indians, and Confirmed the taking the English Traders, and that they had been with the Commanding Officer at Niagara, with three Belts of Wampum, to get their

Liberty

Liberty, but could not procure it:

That 14 Canoes of Micelmackenock Indians arrived, who told him there was Like to be a War between the Iroiglnees and Ulawava Indians, which if not put a Stop to, would hinder all manner of Trade, and that the French had Indeavoured to prevent their coming to Oswego, but that they would not hearken to them, and were resolved to come and Trade to Oswego, and said, if some means or ways could not be found out, to demolish what forts the French had Built already, and prevent their Erecting others, there must be an unavoidable Stop to all manner of Trade.

That a Canoe from Cadanaque with two Indians and the Interpreter of that Place, came to see him, and told him he was going to see a Brother of his, but that he was informed, that his Business was to invite all the five Nations to Canada. And recommending Chiquenondie an Onondaga Sachim to his Excellency, to take notice of him, for fear of Losing him, for that he had a great Influence over the other Indians, and might be of great Interest to us.

Send Letter to be sent the Governor of Canada to put a Stop to building Forts in Indian Countries

upon which report being considered, his Excellency asked the Councils Advice, if he should not send a Second Letter to the Governor of Canada, demanding in his Majesty's Name that he immediately put a Stop to Building any Forts upon those Lands, as they belong to the King of Great Britain.

The Council advised his Excellency to send a second Letter to the Governor of Canada upon it, and at the same time to send a Copy of the 15th. Article of the Treaty of Utrecht with it.

Send a Copy of 15th Art. of the Treaty of Utrecht

His Excellency desired the Advice of this Board how the Expences of Mr. Ogilvies going up to the Mohawks

Expence of sending Presents to the Mohawks

Mohawks

Mohawks

Mohawks, the Necessary Contingent Expences thereon and his hireing a Batteau to bring him an Account of the disposition of the Indians, as to making peace with the Catawba Indians, should be defrayed.

To be paid out of the Money allowed for Indian presents.

They are of Opinion, that it be paid out of the money Granted by the Assembly for the Interview with the Six Nations of Indians.

Copy of the Massachusets Commission to persons appointed to treat with the Indians.

Read a Copy of a Commission Constituting and appointing Jacob Wendell, Joseph Dwight, and ——— Oliver Partridge Esq.rs Commissioners for and in behalf of the Province of Massachusets Bay, to Treat jointly with his Excellency in the Treaty with the Six Nations of Indians, and other Indians bordering on this Government, now at this place.

July 2.d

At a Council held at Albany the 2.d day of July 1755.

Present

His Excellency the Hon.ble George Clinton

The Hon.ble { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James DeLancey, Edward Holland. } Esquires

Sixteen Canoes of the Cockenawaga Indians having arrived Yesterday. This morning they begged Leave of his Excellency, to wait upon him; which he granted. They came accordingly. The Chief Sachem spoke to his Excellency to the following purpose viz.t

Speech of the Cockenawaga Indians to his Excy in their Council at Albany who were formerly a part of the five Nations but now live among the French

Brother, We hope you will not take it amiss to see us here thus unexpected; you may be well assured that we are come upon no bad design, and the cause of our coming is our Trade, and we did not hear of your Excellency's being here, till we came near to Albany, and as we found you here by Chance, we thought it

proper

proper to wait upon you; If we had known we should have found your Excellency here, we should have brought Belts proper to have spoke with, but as we did not, we bring a small bundle of Beaver, such as we have taken in hunting. We thank God that he has spared yours and our Lives, and that we now have the pleasure of seeing your Excellency in health.

This Visit is only as a Compliment to your Excellency, and to let you know that we intend to return immediately, being to set out this afternoon, or tomorrow morning, for our own Homes.

Gave a small bundle of Beaver, to which his Excellency gave the following answer. (Vizt)

His Excellency's Answer to the Delaware Indians

Brethren, You are welcome to this place; The path shall be kept open for you to this place. I Expect that you on your parts will take care to keep it open, and clear, and remove every thing that may obstruct it. And that you will at all times preserve the peace, and Live in Friendship with all the King of Great Britain's Subjects, and with your Brethren of the five Nations, and I shall be pleased if you will return and Live with them as you ought. I must recommend Sobriety to you, to prevent any Ill consequences, that may come from Excess of drinking.

Gave them a piece of Stroud, 6 Dollars, 1 Keg of Rum. For which they returned his Excellency thanks in the following Words viz.t

Brothers, We Return your Excellency our hearty thanks for the present, and say that we did not Expect it, as we only came to pay our Compliments to your Excellency, and we will as your Excellency desires, Live in peace with the Subjects of Great Britain, and their Brethren the five

Nations

Nations and Injune no Person of their Calle in ou
return.

The Six Nations having desired a private
Conference with his Excellency, that they had some
thing to say to him, that was agreed to this morning
in their Councils. They were called in, and Hendrick
their Speaker for that time, spoke to the following purpose

Brethren Corlaer

As this is the place of Consultation, we are
now come to consult with regard to Col.o Johnson. we
well remember that when the War broke out, you
recommended Col.o Johnson to the Six Nations, and bid
us that whatever private Sons there was, of Col.o
Johnson told us, we might depend on it, as much as
we had it from you Excellency; and it is not owing
to us that Col.o Johnson was first recommended to
us by your Excellency as a person for our Information
We were very much Shocked when Col.o Johnson sent
a Belt of wampum through the Six Nations, to
Inform us that he declined acting any more with us,
and it was the more Terrible, because he was well
acquainted with our publick affairs. We had him
in War, when he was Like a Tree that grew for us,
which now Seems to be falling down, that it has many
Roots; his knowledge of our affairs made us think
him one of us (an Indian) and we are greatly
afraid, as he has declined, you Excellency will Appoint
some person a Stranger both to us and our affairs,
and we give you Excellency this Belt of Wampum,
in Order to raise up the falling Tree.

The six Nations Speech to his Excellency on Col. Johnson's resigning them that he declined acting any longer in Indian affairs. On which Head sir he may continue in the Management of them.

We desire to have an answer to what we have
said, and that Col.o Johnson may be reinstated, for he
has Large Ears, and hearth a great deal, and what
he

he hears he tells to us, he also has Large Eyes, and Sees a great way, and conceals nothing from us

A String of Wampum

Our fire is kindled at Col.o Johnson's, which fire is now a going out, and here they Gave a String of Wampum to have the fire renewed.

He desire his Excellency will be pleased to reinstate Col.o Johnson, or else we Expect to be ruined.

They then desired his Excellency will be pleased to order their Guns Hatchetts and Kettles to be mended. which was Consented to.

They then desired his Excellency's Answer to their Speech relating to Col.o Johnson.

At a Council held at Albany the third Day of July 1751.

Present

His Excellency the Hon.ble George Clinton

The Hon.ble { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James De Lancey, Edward Holland } Esquires

After the Indians had made a publick Condolence on the death of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and after his Excellency had Condoled them upon the death of their Sachems, since the last time he had met them in this place. He directed them to send in two or three of the principal Sachems of each Nation, to receive his Answer, to what they said Yesterday, relating to Col.o Johnson, whereupon Eighteen of them came into Council, and his Excellency Spoke to them in the following words.

Brethren

(His Excellency's Answer to the six Nations relating to Col. Johnson's refusing to continue longer in the Management of Indian Affairs.)

Brethren

Col.o Johnsons declining to continue in the Management of the Indian Affairs, was against my Inclination, and his declining to assist me at this time is unexpected to me, because he gave me reason to expect him in this place at this Interview, to assist me by his Advice, but since he absolutely refuses to continue in the management of your affairs, I cannot help it. You tell me that the first appointment of Col.o Johnson to manage your affairs, was not owing to you, but you found him afterwards very usefull to you. Now since he refuses to continue, I must appoint some others. — And you may depend upon it, I shall take all the care in my power to appoint proper Persons for this Service, who will have your Interest truly at Heart.

A Belt of Wampum

You have the more reason to trust to me in this, since Col.o Johnson has been so carefull of you, tho his — appointment was without any recommendation from you. I give this String to remove all Jealousies on this Occasion. A String of Wampum.

I shall take care to light up a Fire for you in some other place, to which you may freely Resort, and be kept Warm, and hear all the News that may any ways concern you, and where you may safely open your hearts. A String of Wampum.

To which the Six Nations answered, that the one half of Coll.o Johnson belonged to his Excellency, and the other to them, and since his Excellency could not prevail on Col.o Johnson to come down, they desired leave to send a Messenger with a String of Wampum, to try what they could do; to which his Excellency consented — provided it did not occasion any unnecessary delay.

and

And they said they would send a person who should go Sooner than a Horse.

Read A Copy of a Commission dated the 7th Inst. Constituting and appointing William Pitkin and John Chester Esqrs. Commissioners in behalf of the Colony of Connecticut, to meet the Six Nations of Indians at Albany, and in Conjunction with his Excellency the Governor of New York, and such other Governors or Commissioners from his Majesty's other Governments, as shou'd be there, to Treat with the said Six Nations of Indians, and their Allies, and to use and pursue proper Measures for the Securing the said Indians in His Majesty's Interest.

Also Instructions from Governor Hamilton to Conrad Weiser, Indian Interpreter for the Province of Pensilvania.

In Council held at Albany the fifth day of July 1754.

Present

His Excellency the Hon.ble George Clinton

The Hon.ble { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James De Lancey, Edward Holland } Esquires

The Indian messenger whom His Excellency hem the Indians to send for Coll. Johnson, having yesterday met him on this side of Schenectady on his way to this place, where he arrived last night, he was now admitted into Council: and his Excellency requested him to continue the Management of the Indian Affairs, for that the Indians were very uneasy at his declining further to act therein.

His Excellency desires him to continue the Management of Indian Affairs

His

So

His Reasons for declining it &c.

To which Col: Johnson answered to this purpose viz:
That it was impossible for him to continue any longer
in the Management of Indian affairs, without a very
Great detriment if not ruin to him, in his private
Fortune, as well as a very great fatigue to his person
For that before the third day of November 1748, he
had (of his private Fortune) advanced in the manage-
ment of Indian affairs, and for the Supply of the
Garison at Oswego, after others had declined supplying
it, because of the War, to the value of £7177: 3 : 2¾,
of which the Accounts had been from time to time
duly Sworn to by him, and delivered unto the Assembly
but they only made provision for the payment of
£5801 : 7 : 4 thereof, so that there remains 1375 : 15 : 10¾
without any provision as yet made by the Assembly
for the payment thereof. That he has never heard of any
Objection made by the Assembly to his Accounts, nor
of any reasons, why the Assembly have from time to
time delayed the making provision for the paymen
of the said £1375 : 15 : 10¾. That of the £5801 7 : 4
which the Assembly have made provision for the
payment of, and for which he had Warrants on the
Treasurer many years ago, there remains £2404
as yet unpaid, tho often demanded, and tho he has
good reason to believe, that the duties on the trade to
Oswego the fund out of which the said Warrants are
to be paid are fully sufficient to pay all that is
Ordered to be paid out of them, and tho he is well
Assured that Warrants to others of several years
later date, upon the same fund, have been paid no
has there ever been any provision made to compense
him for delay of payment after his Advances.
That ever and since the third day of November
1748

That at his Excellency's request, he has advanced of his own private Fortune, in the management of the Indian affairs, to the Value of £1265 12s 8d, as by an Account Sworn to by him, ready to be produced of — which he has received no part, nor does he know of any provision made for the payment thereof.

That it is impossible to continue in the management of the Indians affairs, without great advances, besides his own Trouble, and as there is so much already in Arrear to him, his further continuance in that management, will increase those Arrears, without a Certainty of a speedy payment.

That he would be willing to do all the Service in his power to this Government, in the matter proposed, were he Enabled to do it, but from what is past, he has no Reason to depend on any thing from the Assembly for that purpose.

The Council advised his Excellency to desire Col. Johnson to continue in the management of the Indian affairs, at least during the Continuance of the present Treaty with them, and that his Excellency would be pleased on his return to England to represent to his majesty, the uncommon and great Sufferings Col. Johnson has had in his Zealous Service of the Crown, the Loss he has sustained in his private Fortune thereby, and that Suitable Recompence be given him, not only for the money he has advanced, but Likewise for the Great fatigue and dangers he has personally undergone in this Service, for which he has not made any Charge in his Accounts.

Afterwards his Excellency informed the Council, that he had Communicated the Advice of the Council to Col. Johnson, and that he had promised to give all —

Council Advise his Excellency to desire Col. Johnson to continue in the Management of Indian Affairs during the present Treaty

That his Excellency on his return to England would represent Col. Johnson's Services to his Majesty

Johnson promises what Assistance he can in the present

But

will the assistance in his power during the present Treaty
but that he declined being sworn of the Council, as
sitting as a Councillor, would occasion an Extraordinary
expence on him, as the Indians would thereby
imagine, that he was continued in the management
of the Indian affairs, and that he was enabled to
perform the same on the publick Charge.

but declines being sworn of the Council

At a Council held at Albany the
Seventh day of July 1755.

July 6

Present His Excellency the Hono.ble George Clinton

The Hono.ble { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James De Lancey, Edward Holland } Esquires

His Excellency desired the advice of the board, what
was to be done relating to the French Cocknawaga
Indians; there being near 200 now in this Town, as
he was Informed, which might be productive of
Mischief among our Indians, and them, as they stay
so much Longer, than they promised his Excellency.

The Council advised his Excellency to send the
Sheriff to all the Traders, with the Cocknawagas, to
acquaint them, that his positive Orders were, that the
first party that came into this place should go away
immediately, and that the Traders should dispatch
the other parties, as soon as possible, after they had
got what things they came to purchase.

Orders for the Departure of the French Indians now at Albany.

At a Council held at Albany the
Eighth day of July 1755.

July 8

Present His Excellency the Hono.ble George Clinton

The Hono.ble { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James De Lancey, Edward Holland } Esqr.

Read a Letter from the Commissioners Boston to His
Excellency

Excellency; also Commissioner Bull's speech, designed to be spoke to the Six Nations, concerning their making peace with the Catawbas. His Excellency desired the advice of the Council upon the said Speech.

It is the Opinion of the Council that Mr. Bull (to make dispatch in this Treaty) do have the Catawbas ready to — speak what they have to say to the Six Nations.

Read Governor Glens Letter (under the Broad Seal of South Carolina) to the Six Nations, in behalf of the Catawbas, and the other Southern Indians, depending on South Carolina, in order to make a peace between them.

His Excellency Communicated the Account of the Amount of the Expences already occured on the present Treaty with the Indians, which far Exceeds the Expences of former Treaties, and requested their Advice upon it, as it must consequently greatly lessen the publick presents.

The Council was of Opinion that Notwithstanding it must Lessen them, that those Expences of victualling, bringing them down, and carrying them back, ought to be Charged to the money granted by the Assembly for the Indian presents, as it appears to be a necessary — contingent for that Service.

At a Council held at Albany the 10th. day of July 1753.

Present

His Excellency the Hono. ble George Clinton

The Hono. ble { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James De Lancey, Edward Holland } Esquires

Read the Speech of the Massachusets Bay — Commissioners designed to be spoke to the Six Nations.

His Excellency desired the Councils Advice relating to the Indian Boy detained by Johannes —

Bleecker

Bradt. The Mayor and Recorder of Albany were called in, and asked what Information they could give the Board, concerning that matter — The Mayor said he could get no further Intelligence, than an — Affidavit taken and Sworn to before him the 11th of June last by Wilhelmus Bikeman, which he produced and was read — The Recorder being duely Sworn in — Council, made an Affidavit to what he knew of the affair, Signed, and dated in Council this Day.

The Mayor said, that Bradt told him he would not deliver the Boy, without being repaid what he had cost him, but on his telling him, the Ill Consequences of keeping him from his parents, he promised to deliver the Boy to Lieutenant Lindesay at Onego, which he has not yet done. The Mayor further said, he had heard that the Indians had been at Onego, and made a great Noise, with Threatnings, about detaining the Boy, and that he the Mayor Ordered the said Bradt to send the Boy to him, that he might send him up to Onego, by some of his Neighbours, that were going thither, but he never sent him. —

The Indian Boy and the person detaining him ordered to attend

Agreed that an Order by his Excellency In Council be delivered to the Sheriff to bring the said Bradt, and the Indian Boy forthwith before his Excellency in Council An order made out accordingly.

At a Council held at Albany the tenth Day of July 1755.

July 10th

Present His Excellency the Hono^ble George Clinton

The Hono^ble { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James De Lancey, Edward Holland } Esquires

Thos Williams

Johannes Bradt and the Indian Boy were called in

In, and the affidavit of Wilhelmus Bikeman, read, also that of Sybrant Van Schack. Mr. Bradt says he actually bought him of his Father, and that the Father never offered him any thing to return the Boy. Upon Considering the above pretence, so Contrary to the said Depositions, and other Informations, which this Board formerly had of this matter, and the dangerous Consequences to the peace of this Province from such practices — Ordered that the Sheriff of the City and County of Albany take the Indian Boy into his Custody till further Orders — Ordered that Johannes Bradt enter into Recognizance before the Chief Justice to his Majesty in the Sum of £100, to appear at the next Supreme Court of this province, to answer to an Information to be filed against him, concerning the premisses, and that he Stand committed till he enter into such Recognizance — Ordered that the Attorney General file an Information against Johannes Bradt for the matters aforesaid, and that Copies of the said Depositions be delivered to him.

Indian Boy delivered to the Sheriff

The person who brought him to enter into Recognizance

The Attorney Genl. to prosecute him

Col. Johnson being called in, his Excellency asked if he would take Care of the Indian Boy and send him to Oswego, in Order to be delivered to his Parents, to which Col. Johnson answered he would. Ordered that the Sheriff deliver the said Indian Boy to Col. Johnson when he shall call for him.

Indian Boy to be sent to Oswego

His Excellency laid before the Board a Mandamus to Swear and Admit William Johnson Esq. of his Majesty's Council for this province, which was Read and is as follows.

The King's Mandamus to admit Col. Johnson of the Council. Read.

George R

Trusty and well beloved we Greet you well. We being well Satisfied of the Loyalty Integrity and Ability of our Trusty and well beloved

William

William Johnson Esq.r, have thought fit hereby to signify our Will and pleasure to you, that forthwith upon Receipt hereof, you Swear and Admit him the said William Johnson to be of our Council in our province of New York, in the Room of Philip Livingston Esq.r deceased; And for so doing this shall be your Warrant And so We bid you Farewell. Given at our Court at St. James's, the twelfth day of April 1750, in the twenty third Year of our Reign. By his Majesty's Comman

Bedford

To Our Trusty and Welbeloved George Clinton Esq.r Our Captain General and Governor in Chief of Our Province of New York in America, and in his Absence to our Commander in Chief, or to the President of our Council of our said province for the time being

The Oaths administred to Col.o Johnson and he takes his Seat.

Whereupon the usual State Oaths were administred to Col.o Johnson, which he Subscribed, and repeated and Subscribed the Test. And also took an oath well and truly to Execute the Office and Trust of a Councillor of this Province, according to the best of his Skill and Judgment. and then took his Seat at the Board.

His Excellency Communicated to the Board a Letter to him from the several Commissioners of the other Governments, which was read and is as follows.

Letter to his Excellency from the Commissioners of the other Governments

May it please your Excellency.

We the Subscribers, Commissioners from Several of his Majesty's Governments, beg leave to acquaint your Excellency, that we are fully persuaded that the good Intentions of the Government we represent, will be very much, if not altogether Defeated, if nothing more be said or done, than what has been, in order to secure and attach the Indians of the Six Nations, to the Interest of the Crown of Great Britain. We doubt not but your

Your Excellency is very Sensible, that the Brightning the Covenant Chain, which has been now done, is by Custom become little more than matter of Formality. That the peace proposed to be Concluded between the Six Nations and the Catawbas, is not yet agreed to by the Six Nations, they having that matter still under their Consideration: That a few presents from the Several Governments, will by no means be a ballance to those the Six Nations receive from the French; Adding also on that side of the Question, their Insidious and Artfull Insinuations and Endeavours by their Priests, residing among them, their Intermarriages &c. We therefore can but look upon all that has been done by these Governments, at this Juncture, as in no ways answering the Expectations Conceived by our Respective Provinces. That some New Measures were to be Concerted for the promoting his Majesty's Interest, and the Security of his Subjects, in regard to the Indians on the Continent of America. We have Intimated this to his Majesty's Council of New York, deputed by you, to Confer with us, and waited in Hopes, that your Excellency would lay some General Plan before the Commissioners from the Several Governments, now met in this City, upon your Excellency's invitation. And after so many days Spent here, we are Concerned to find your Excellency determined to leave this place, without any measures Concerted, or proposed, or Intended to be proposed, so far as we know, for the Civilizing & Christianizing these Nations: or any other Matters which might tend to the abovementioned purpose. The Neglect whereof especially at this Juncture, —

when

when we perceive the French are gaining the ascendant in their affections, we can't but apprehend will be of very ill Consequence to his majesty's Provinces and Colonies in General. We therefore hope your Excellency will, for the present, lay aside your thoughts of returning so Suddenly as you have proposed, and lead us by your weight and Influence in this Important Affair; Or appoint such person or persons to Confer with us upon these Matters, as you shall think proper. We are your Excellency's most Obedient and Humble Servants. Jacob Wendell, Joseph Dwight Oc: Partridge. Commissioners for the Province of the Massachusetts Bay. Wm. Pitkin, John Chester Commissioners for the Colony of Connecticut. William Bull Junr. Commissioners from the province of South Carolina.

The said Letter having been delivered just as his Excellency was going to receive the Answer of the Indians with Respect to the Peace with the Catawbas, and his Excellency being to Embark this Evening on his Return to New York, therefore referred it to a Committee of the Council to Consider of the said Letter, when he should come to New York, and acquainted the Commissioners therewith.

The Commissioners Letter Referred to a Committee to be considered at New York.

His Excellency's several Speeches to the Six Nations of Indians, and their answers at Albany.

His Excellency's several Speeches to the Indians and their Answers.

On monday the first day of July 1751. His Excellency in presence of the Gentlemen of the Council then at Albany, made the following Speech to the Six Nations.

July 1st

Brethren You are welcome here, I am Glad to see you,

and

and cannot but heartily condole with you, on the death of the Prince of Wales, our King's Son, and the loss of your Sachems, and others of your people, — whom it hath pleased God to take to himself since your last general meeting at this place; that the Tears may now be wiped of your Eyes, and sorrow removed from your hearts, that We may with equal Vigour and Sincerity proceed to the accomplishment of the weighty affairs we have now to Transact, and as a Token of my hearty regard for you and your Welfare, and that of all your people. I give you this String of Wampum.

To which the Six Nations Answered

Brother Conlaca. We are very glad to see you here, the Grief on your and our parts, for the Loss of the Prince of Wales the King's Son, and many of our Great men and Sachems, is so great, that our Eyes are ready to burst with Tears; but as Business is the cause of our meeting, let us moderate our Grief, and wipe the tears — from off our Eyes, that we may duly attend to Publick affairs. A String of Wampum.

On the third day of July 1751. the Six Nations by an Oneida Sachim made the following Speech to his — Excellency, in the presence of the Gentlemen of the Council.

Brother Conlaca We come to Speak in the name of the Six Nations: We heard near this place of the Death of the Prince of Wales the King's Eldest Son; the Grief that we on our side as well as on your Excellency's Side feel, is very great: as these are things that are common, we ought not to grieve too much; as we have in War as well as at other times lost a great many Great People, Let us moderate our Grief as much as possible; we

give

give your Excellency this bundle of Skins, to lay upon the Grave of the Lance, and upon the Graves of the other Friends, that have dyed since the last meeting.

Brother Corlaer Since our last Meeting, your Excellency has met with so many Misfortunes from the Murders and Barbarities committed by our common Enemy the French, that the Ground is almost Soe open with it. But let us Cover their Graves with a Stone. Upon which, they gave a Belt of Wampum.

Brother Corlaer We the Six Nations rejoice to see your Excellency at this place, where our fire has always been kept, and that you and We are now met to kindle the fire anew. A Belt of Wampum.

Brother Corlaer and all the Gentlemen in Authority.

We hope that you will join hand and heart in the publick Interest: if you should not, it will be our Intire ruin, and we must suffer greatly, if we do not prove true and faithfull to each other, and duly attend to the publick Interest. A Belt of Wampum.

Brother Corlaer Take Example from the Sun, which has its regular Course, and as the Sun is certain in its motion, let us be as certain to each other, in the Course of our Affairs, and not deviate in the least.

Brother Corlaer A Belt of Wampum.

As by this means we have now cleared our Hearts for one another. Let us now prepare our selves for Business, that we may Transact our affairs with Honesty, Fidelity, and Sincerity.

Brother Corlaer A String of Wampum.

After what is passed, it is a Custom among us, to have a large Tobacco pouch, to put our

Mementoes

Mementoes into, to which We repair to freshen our memorys. A String of Wampum.

To which his Excellency answered

Brethren / As you have condoled with me for the loss of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, I do now on my part Condole with you for the many losses we have had, in the deaths of twelve of the principal Sachems our good friends, and to convince you how sensible I am of our great loss, I now deliver you twelve Blankets, twelve pair of Stockings, and twelve Shirts, to lay upon their Graves. Let me Intreat you to Grieve no more, but prepare yourselves to attend the publick Business.

Brethren I am very Thankfull to you that you have joined us, in condoling our common loss of the Prince of Wales your Fathers Eldest Son. A String of Wampum

Brethren / I am well pleased, that you are sensible of our losses occasioned by the murders and barbarities committed by our common Enemy the French, and thank you for it. A Belt of Wampum.

Brethren I am glad to see you here, in order to kindle the fire that has been kept burning in this place, as it has been always customary by our Forefathers A Belt.

Brethren / I am come to this place with full purpose to join hand and Heart with you, in promoting the publick Interest, and to do every thing in my power that may tend towards it, upon which you may depend. A Belt of Wampum.

Brethren / You tell me that I must take Example from the regularity of the Sun's Course, and that we should be as regular and punctual in Transacting

our

our Affairs, as the Sun it its course, which I faithfully promise you on my part. A Belt of Wampum.

Brethren! You say that your Hearts are now clear'd, and would have us prepare for Business, that we may Transact our affairs with Honesty, fidelity and Sincerity, which I am glad to hear, and shall on my part act with the greatest Sincerity.

A String of Wampum

Brethren! You also tell me, that you have a Custom among you, to put all the News you receive into a large Tobacco pouch, and that when at any time you are at a loss for the News you have heard, you put your Hands in the pouch, and draw it out again. I am much pleased with the Care you take in preserving your News. A String of Wampum.

Propositions made by his Excellency the Honourable George Clinton Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the province of New York &c.a To the Six Nations.

July the 6.th

At Albany the 6.th Day of July 1753.

Present His Excellency.

The Hono.ble { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James De Lancey, Edward Holland } Esquires

The Commissioners from the Several provinces

The Mayor and Corporation of Albany.

and several Officers of the Independant Company and Gent.n from New York, attending his Excellency, and the Commissioners upon this Occasion.

Brethren The design of my meeting with you at this time is to renew the Covenant Chain, to cleanse away all

and

Rust, to brighten it, and Strengthen it, so that it
may forever Endure; as this Chain has lasted so long,
and secured us against the designs of our Enemys,
who have at all times Endeavoured, and are still —
Endeavouring to break it, they would be glad that
We, or you, Should let it slip; let us then hold it —
fast, with all our strength, and secure it at both ends.

Brethren!

All
Commissioners from the Neighbouring Colonies
of Massachusets Bay, and Connecticut, have met you
at this Council fire in this place, from the earliest time,
and are now come again: here is also a Commissioner
from South Carolina, which Province being a great
way off, hath never sent any Commissioner before this
time. These Commissioners are all come hither, to
assist us in strengthening and holding fast the
old Covenant chain. I now by this Belt, in your
Father the King of Great Britain's Name, and in
behalf of all his Majesty's Subjects in North America,
renew and confirm the Covenant chain, and all
former Engagements of Love and friendship between us
and you, that they may remain firm and unshaken,
so long as the Sun and Moon shall Endure.

Brethren

The Chain Belt
One great end and purpose of this Chain, is to
Secure Trade and Commerce between us, and you, and
by your means, with all the Nations of Indians,
which lay to the westward of you; by these means the
power and authority of the Six Nations, is greatly
Increased among all their Neighbours, as they must
come through your Countries, to carry on this Commerce,
so necessary for them, and when they see and
understand the Strength and Numbers of your

Brethren

Brethren, all over this great Continent, united together in this Covenant chain, they must have a high Opinion of your power; as the keeping the path open to this place, from all the Indian Nations to the Westward of you, is of so great benefit to you, as well as to the Common Interest of us all, I give this Belt to remove all Logs or other Rubbish that may obstruct it.

A Belt.

Brethren, The Governor of Canada dreads this Union of the Brethren with us, and with the distant Nations to the Westward and Southward as far as the River Missesipi: for this reason he is always Endeavouring to break this Chain, by Obstructing and stopping the Trade and Commerce, that is between this place and the far Indians, who pass thro your Country. I am told he is at this time building a Fort on your Lands at Onagara, to stop the Indians in their way to Trade with us — If you should Suffer him to do this, the Six Nations will become weak and mean, in the Eyes of all the Neighbouring Nations; for these Forts will be like Bitts and Bridles in their mouths, by which you and the other Indian Nations must turn, and go as the Governor of Canada pleases. your Brethren the English make no Attempts on you, to restrain you Liberty of going to Trade where you like best, and where you can be served best. Whereas these Forts which the French build, are to take this Liberty from the other Nations, and to force them to go to Canada, and thereby to withdraw their Love and friendship from us, and you, and to make them our Enemys. I therefore by this Belt, in the Name of your

Brethren

Father the King, I must and Require of you, that as soon as possible, you send a proper Number of your men to Niagara, to oblige the French to forbear their Erecting any Forts or other Buildings there, or at Ohio, or any where else on your Lands, and to demolish what is already Built. It will be much easier to prevent their being built, than to pull them down afterwards. A Belt

Brethren/ Another artifice the Enemys of our Covenant chain make use of, is to Excite Variance and War between the Several Indian Nations, that are united with you Brethren the English, in the several parts of this Great Continent. Nothing can so Effectually weaken, and at last Intirely destroy the Brethren, as their falling out among themselves, and mutually Killing and destroying one another; this is doing the work of your Enemys: while they sit looking on, and laugh at your folly. If all the Indian Nations united in Friendship with Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Pensilvania, this Government, Connecticut, Massachusets Bay and New Hampshire, were truly and firmly united in the same Councils, with Love and friendship, how great would that power be, what dread must it strike on your Enemys, and who would dare attempt to hurt them. In order to accomplish this so much to be desired Union, I have prevailed upon the Governor of South Carolina, to send a Gentleman to this place, whom you now see here, and to send with him Six of the Chiefs of the Catawbas, who are now in this City, ready to make peace with you, and to become your fast Friends, and to unite with you in our common Cause. When your former Treaties in this place, You desired and

Recommended

Solemnly promised to receive them as one Flesh and Blood with you, on their coming to it, I therefore by this Belt, Excite you to lay hold of this proffered peace and Friendship with the Catawbas. It must tend to Strengthening the Covenant chain, and the Common Interest of us all. I can no longer bear to see those who are our Brethren, Killing and destroying one another, and therefore I cannot doubt of your Chearfully agreeing to what I now propose.

A Belt of Peace.

Brethren!

I design in a little time to pass over the Great Water to the King your Father. I perswade myself that your ready Compliance with what I now require of you, will Inable me to recommend you to his favour, and that I may tell the King of this, among many other Instances of your dutifullness to him, and thereby Secure to you his protection: and as the time of my Imbarqueing draws near, I must recommend to you all possible dispatch to the affairs now before you. A Belt. —

Answer of the Six Nations to his Excellency the Honourable George Clinton Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Province of New York &c.

July 8. At Albany the Eighth day of July 1753.

Present as before

Brother Corlaer,

We are now met at the appointed time, to make our answer, and desire to know whether your Excellency is ready to hear us. (to which his Excellency answered Yes)

Brother Corlaer, It is a long time since we have had the pleasure of seeing your Excellency at this place. of

Consultation

Consultation, and we will now answer your Excellency's Speech paragraph by paragraph.

Brother Colden

As You Excellency with the Commissioners from Massachusets Bay, Connecticut and Carolina, are come to renew the Covenant chain, with the Six Nations, we are also come here to Join your Excellency and those Commissioners, in that good design, and say that we shall remain Inseperable by any accidents of this World, for that neither Thunder Lightning or the falling of Trees, can seperate us. A Belt.

Brother Colden

as the Commissioner from Carolina has never been here before, the Oneydes, Tusquarons, & Chingas have agreed to give him a name, that if, for time to come, we should have occasion to talk of him, we may know who we mean, and have chose the name (Auckwawaga) and hope he will always honestly assist in holding fast the Covenant chain.

A Belt.

Brother Colden

By the old Covenant, we are one heart, one Blood, and one Head, and we thank your Excellency for renewing this Covenant, and we shall remain as one, for if any member is hurt, it affects the whole.

A Belt

Brother Colden

Your Excellency desired us to Increase our Interest among the Six Nations, we now Inform your Excellency that we have done it, and still continue to do it, having set Nine Castles of the Six Nations settled at Canahaga, who acknowledge themselves Subjects of the King of Great Britain, and have Built a Stockada Fort there, to Strengthen themselves, and secure the English Trade, and agreable to your Excellency's desire, we shall Increase our Interest as much as possible. A Belt

Brother

Brother Corlaer / Your Excellency also desired we should send some of our men, to Forbid the French Building any Forts at Oniagara, and we now Inform your Excellency that the reason of the Onondaga's going to Canada, was with that view, as the Land was the property of that Nation, and at their return we Expect an answer whether they will desist or no, which we shall take care to let your Excellency know of, and if they do not stop, we shall do as your Excellency directs, and go some of each Nation, and forbid the Building of these Forts. A Bell

Brother Corlaer / It was your Excellency's desire Eleven Years ago, for us to make peace with the Catawbas, we told your Excellency then, we wanted to see and talk with them, and as your Excellency Informs us, that they are now here, we are willing to see them, and hear them talk, and then we shall Consider of it, with all moderation, and as your Excellency told us, that the French laught at our killing one another, we are convinced of the truth of it, and shall consider more of it, when we hear the Catawbas. A Bell.

Brother Corlaer / It might have been of bad Consequence had not your Excellency acquainted us of your going over the great water, and as we know of your going, we wish you a prosperous Voyage; it is a dangerous passage, where we pray to the Great God of Heaven, to protect you and carry you safe over. we shall be glad to hear of your safe arrival, as your Excellency has promised to recommend us to our Father the King, which we do not doubt, but you will do, and we return your Excellency our hearty thanks for your promise — As your Excellency has been so good as to Inform us of your going over the

Great

Great water, we desire your Excellency will carry a Message from us, and Inform the King our Father, that the French are Indeavouring to take away our Lands, and Build Forts on them, and beg that the King will Inform the King of France of the Proceedings of his Subjects, that he may put a Stop to it, for that the Land belongs to the King our Father, and the Governor of this province.

Brother Corlaer

We would send another Message by you, that is, that the King our Father would reinstate Col.° Johnson amongst us, and as you are now about to leave us, and have not chose any person, with whom we may Transact our Affairs in the mean time, we hope you will appoint some person to whom we may bring our news, and from whom we may receive News.

A Belt.

Brother Corlaer.

We have now fully finished our Answer.

When his Excellency in private presents, gave to Viccus a Laced Coat, Hat and Ruffled Shirt, and to Punchard's Son the like.

And among them, and the rest of the Warriours

2 P.ces Stroud	12 Guns	1 Doz.n Knives
1 P.ce half Ficks	50 Flints	24 ℔ Lead
14 Yds Cottons	2 ℔ Vermilion	28 Goose Shot
12 Shirts —	1 Doz.n Boxes to put it in	12 Kettles —

When Viccus for the whole, returned his Excellency Thanks, and said he was Obliged to his Excellency for considering their Handships in the War.

Answer to the Message of Mr Bull from S.th Carolina & a Present

The Speech of Mr. Bull the Commissioner from South Carolina to the Six Nations.

Brethren the Sachems and Warriours of the Six Nations.

Governor Clinton having kindled a Council fire at Albany, and Invited the English Governors and Indians to it, I am come a long way on the Great Sea from South Carolina, to talk with you at it, and as no

Governor

Governor or Commissioner from that province, hath ever shaken hands with you at Albany before, I give you this Belt of wampum to tell you I am glad to see you, and to shake hands with you, that you may know me, and open your ears to hear what I have to say to you. — 1 Belt.

Brethren / The Governor of South Carolina Intended to have come himself to see you, but as there was some bad Talks from the Cherokee Nation, as if they designed to stop the path, by killing and plundering the English Traders in that Nation, the Governor resolved to stay to take care of his people, and in case any mischief should be done by the Cherokees, endeavour to carry war into such of their towns, as should be concerned in it. he has therefore sent me, one of the beloved men, to talk for him, and gave me this good talk, which I have in my Hand, to deliver in particulars from himself to You: He has fixed the Great Seal to it, that you may know it is a Sworn Talk, for this Seal ties every thing Strong to it, which it is said to, it shall be read to you now, and may be read to your children after you. [here Mr. Bull read the Governor of Carolinas Letter to the Six Nations] Brethren with this talk, I deliver this Belt of Wampum, to Inforce the matters therein recommended to you. 1 Belt.

Brethren / It makes my Heart, and every English Heart — sorry, to see Indians who are friends to the English, — continuing at war with each other; it is almost like Striking the Hatchet in your Brethren & the English. This can be pleasing only to your Enemys — You my Brethren of the Six Nations, are all good Friends to the English: and the Catawbas, the Chickesaws, the Creek Cherokees, some of the Chactaws, and the Small Tribes of

Indians

Indians, the Living in our Settlements, are also good —
Friends to English; it is very good, and therefore our —
desire, that all the Indians who are friends to the —
English, should be friends to each other, and be Included
in the Same bright Chain, which holds the English
and the Six United Nations together. I am now
come a great way, with the assistance of the Governor
of New York, and the Commissioners from Massachusets
Bay, and Connecticut, to lengthen the old Covenant
Chain, for that purpose, and to plant the Tree of peace,
may it always be Green, like the Laurel; may its Roots
grow so Strong in the Earth, that no wind from the —
Great Lakes, or Great Rivers, where the French are
settled, shall be able to blow it down; may its branches
spread wide in the Air, that you the Six Nations and
your allies, may sit friendly under the Shadow of it,
with the Catawbas, Creeks, Chickasaws, Chactaws
Cherokees and the small Tribes living in our Settle-
ments, and there Smoke together, and may the —
Hatchet, and all that is past, be Buried so deep in the
Ground, that no Ross person, who desires to dig it up,
can find it. Then the time which you now spend in
going to War against our Indian Brethren, may be
usefully Employed, against our common Enemys, or
in Hunting, that you may buy plenty of Goods for
yourselves, your wives and your Children. This will
be very agreable to the Great King George; who like
our God father, is Grieved to see his Children destroy
each other, but is pleased when he sees them kind
to one another — To inforce this proposal, I give you
this Broad Belt of Wampum.

Brethren! Altho South Carolina is so far distant from
Albany, yet I have brought some presents, in

from that Government, which you will accept of, as a Testimony of the Friendship, which that Province hath for our Brethren the Six Nations. I have them in my Care, and they shall be delivered when Governor Clinton makes his presents to you, to confirm this promise, I give you this String of Wampum.

My Brethren the Sachems and Warriors of the Six Nations.

You have heard what his Excellency Governor Clinton has said concerning a peace, and what his Excellency the Governor of South Carolina hath Wrote to you, and also what I have now said. You will hear next what the chiefs of the Catawbas, who came here with me, will say; they come to this Treaty at Albany to meet you, in order to make peace with you, they know it is the desire of the English that peace should be made between you, and you know it is the desire of the English also. To open your Ears I give you this Belt of Wampum.

Here the Catawbas came down from their quarters, singing, with their Colours pointed to the Ground, and having Set their pipes, the King and one more put them in the mouths of the Chief Sachems of the Six Nations, who Smoked out of them. And then spoke to them as follows.

The King of the Catawbas speaks to the Six Nations

Friends

I last Year with the Advice of my Great men, determined to make a peace with You, and Set out for that purpose, but was taken Sick by the way, which hinder'd me. The same Resolution remained in my Heart, and the Governor of Carolina agreeing with me, Consented to send a Vessel to New York, that we might meet you here at this Treaty, which greatly rejoyced me, and when I came away, my Sonns all Shook hands with me, and desired me

for

for them to make a peace, and I give this Belt, which has all my Towns upon it, Signifying that they all join in my desire.

We are all Friends to the English, and desire to be so with our Brothers the Six Nations; and as some of your people are now out, that do not know of the peace, when they are all returned, and the Path clear and safe, I will come to your Towns and Houses, and Smoke with you, as I would in my own. [Here the King first, and then the other Calawbas Shook Hands with the Six Nations]. To which the Six Nations answered.

Brethren We are glad to see you here, and return you thanks for your kind Speech. But as it is a thing of moment, we must take time to consider of it, and shall answer you this Evening, or to morrow morning.

When his Excellency told the Six Nations, he would give them their presents, when they had answered the Calawbas.

The Answer of the Six Nations to the Speech of Mr. Bull the Commissioner from South Carolina.

Ans.r of the Six Nations to Mr. Bulls Speech wherein they agree to the peace

at Albany the tenth day of July 1755.

Present His Excellency the Hono.ble Gene Pinton &c.a

The Hono.ble { Cadwallader Colden, James Alexander, James De Lancey, Edward Holland, William Johnson } Esquires

The Commissioners from the Several Provinces.

The Mayor and Corporation of Albany

And Several Officers of the Independant Companys, and other Gentlemen from New York, attendant his Excellency, and the Commissioners on this occasion.

The

The Calambas being come down from their Quarters. The Chief Sachem of the Senecas, lit a pipe, and put it in the mouths of each of the Calambas, who smoked out of it, and then he returned it among the Six Nations. And then the Six Nations began.

Brother Corlaer and Aichwanaga.

In answer to the first paragraph of Mr. Coulls Speech, we return him thanks for his kind Speech, and desire that he will be faithfull and Honest in Holding fast the Covenant Chain. A Belt.

to 2d. Paragraph

Aichwanaga We thank you kindly for the Governours Candles Letter, and shall preserve it as an evidence

Brother Corlaer and others, particularly Aichwanaga.

We kindly thank your Excellency, and the Gentlemen, for the Unkindness they Expect, at the Indians murdering one another, and we Consent that the Hatchet be Buried where no ill Natured person can find it. A Belt.

Brother Corlaer and others the Commissioners

Aichwanaga the other day, by a Belt of wampum told us, that he came here to plant a tree of peace, that the English and Indians might Sit in peace under it; we thank you for your good design, and heartily Join you in it, and may it grow large and last forever. A Belt.

Brother Corlaer &c.a ×

Aichwanaga also told us, that at the He came a great way, he brought some thing in his Bosom, as a present for us, and to remind him thereof, we give this String of Wampum.

Brother Corlaer

It is but a few days ago we desired you

to

× a Signifies as to the 2d. paragraph will Join with their Brethren the Indians and gave a String of Wampum to Remember it, we Join and thank him for it. A Belt.

To raise up the falling Tree Wanckwago Colo Johnson meaning and have as wone person to Transact our affairs with. The Goods at Onego are so dear, that we cannot buy them, and desire your Excellency will order them to be sold cheaper, as it will be a meane of Strengthening the Covenant chain.

A String of Wampum

When the Six Nations Spoke to the Calawbas as follows.

Brethren the Calawbas.

Sea Nations Speech to Calawbas Nov.

You came to our Doors and Fires, to make Peace with us, and we have heard your kind Speech, and thank you for it, and as a token that you came to make peace, and were received as our Friends, we give you this white Belt of Wampum, to wear about your Necks, that all that see it, may know that you have been here, and were received as our Friends. we give you this white Belt of Wampum to wear about your Necks, that all that see it may know that you have been here and were received as our Friends.

Brethren the Calawbas

This Belt serves to make you more powerfull, and give you Short Horns, it has been a Custom among all the Indian Nations, that when they come to sue for peace, they bring some prisoners with them, and when you Return with prisoners, the peace shall be compleated, and your Horns Lengthened, and we give you a year to return with the prisoners, and if you dont come in that time, we shall look upon the peace as void.

Brethren the Calawbas

We will take you first up to the Mohawks Castle, being the first Town you come to, as it were, in there Sit and smoke, and think of you, and not go out

to

to War, if you return within the time a hpointed by us.

Here the Catawbas Answered

I have long wished for a peace with you the Six Nations, but never had an opportunity till now, and as it is compleated before his Excellency, and these Commissioners, and the Belt past, I shall wear it about my Neck, as a Token of friendship.

It is a right and good Custom, that Prisoners should be Exchanged, in making a peace, and if you send some of your people home with me, I will carry them to my own house, and they shall live as I do, and I will then deliver all the prisoners I have to them and come with them, and conduct them safe to their own Town.

Brethren the Catawbas.

As to your Request of sending some of our people to your Country, it is unprecedented, and what we never have done at the first time of meeting, and none of our people are prepared to go, therefore we cant agree to it. But we may at the second time send some of our people with you.

Here the Catawbas answered

We shall come in a short time to your Towns, to compleat the peace, and you may expect to see us.

The Six Nations Answered

Brethren the Catawbas We desire when you come again, you'll come by water, and bring a Commissioner with you, that we may know you to be the same, for as there are Several Nations, which are in Confunction with us, that may not know of this Peace, the, both may be dangerous, and destroy what is now done, but if you come to this place you'll be Safe.

Here his Excellency spoke to the Six Nations as follows

Brethren

Brethren I am Glad to be Informed by you of the Success of your Indeavours, to Increase you Strength and Interest among other Nations — That you have received Nine Castles into the Covenant Chain, and that they have acknowledged themselves Subjects of the King of Great Britain.

I approve of what you have done, and hope you will continue your Indeavours for these purposes, and I shall likewise on my return to Court, lay before the King your father, what you have desired me to say, in relation to Colo Johnson, and I can add no more, than what I have already told you — That I constantly given Orders that Goods be sold as Cheap as Traders can afford them.

Which the Six Nations answered

Brother Indian We desire Colo Johnson may be Reinstated, as there is some of the Six Nations gone to Canada about the French Building a Fort at Oniagara, unless your Excellency aphoints some person for us to go to, You cannot Expect to hear what answer they bring.

Which his Excellency answered, telling them, that on his return to New York, he would advise with the Council to the aphointment of some person for their affairs.

And then ordered the presents out and gave them, and at the same time. Mr Bull gave his.

The Governor of South Carolina to his Friends and Brethren, the Chiefs of the Six Nations, and other Indians Meeting at Albany.

Loving Friends and Brothers

There are many Nations of Indians in alliance with this Government, the Cherokees, the Creeks, the Chickesaws, the Catawbas and a great part of the

Charlotts

Chactaws, besides many Tribes that are Incorporated with Some of these Nations, or that Live peaceably in our Settlements, the Chaouans, Kichais Kotchies, Keedees, Cape Feares, Eleuaus and others and as they are friends to the English, it has been my constant Endeavour, to keep them Friends with one another. The French were at great pains some Years ago, to get an Interest among them, and to Alienate their affections from us, but finding their Attempts were Vain, their next design has been to Stir up Strife, and to kindle the flame of war amongst them, thereby to weaken them, so as they may become an easy prey to them, and in this they have been too Successfull, having blown up a bloody war afresh, betwixt the Creeks and Cherokees after I had Extinguished it, and had Healed those wounds, that had been too long Bleeding. Hence I hope I shall Still Reconcile all their differences, and it would give me an Equal Pleasure, if I could Contribute in Conjunction with the Governor of New York, to Adjust and Settle the disputes, that have so Long Subsisted betwixt the Six Nations, and other Indians to the Northward, and the Catawbas, Creeks and other Southward Indians. I have some time ago talked to the Catawbas upon this Subject, in the presence of some of those who go with this Letter, and their King would have been at Albany a year and an half ago, had not Death prevented him: however the King and the Head men, and all the Nation in General, are now desirous to bury in Eternal Oblivion, all that has happened on either side, so that the same may never in time to

come

Come be mentioned or thought of, and are willing or desirous to make a peace, and to bind themselves in one Chain of friendship with their Brothers of the Six Nations, and the other Southward Indians: the one End to be kept by the Governor of New York, and the other End by the Governor of South Carolina. and I hope you'll agree to it, and I have sent some presents of such things, as I thought you might have occasion for, to bind the Treaty, not only betwixt you and the Catawbas, but betwixt you and the Creeks, and all Southern Indians. may the Chain never contract any Rust, but Shine like the Sun in the Firmament. may the peace last whilst the Sun Endures. I am my very Good friends your Loving Brother

South Carolina
May 21st 1755. (Ls)

James Glen Govr. St. Carolina

At a Council held at Fort George in the City of New York the 19th day of July 1755.

19 July
His Excly
Present
The Honourable George Clinton Capt. Gen. &c.
M. Colden — } M. Chief Justice
M. Alexander } M. Holland

The Committees report upon the Letter from the Commissioners at Albany to his Excellency was read and approved of, and Ordered to be Entered and is as follows.

Committees Report upon Letter delivered at Albany from the Comrs. to the Governr.

May it please your Excellency.

Your Excellency on the 10th Instant at Noon, communicated to the Council at Albany, a Letter which your Excellency had just then received from the Commissioners of Massachusets Bay, South Carolina and Connecticut; intimating that the good Intentions of the Governments they represent, will be very much,

y

if not altogether defeated, if nothing more be said on them than what had been, to secure the Indians of the Six Nations, to the Interest of the Crown &c.

Upon this Letter, we shall beg leave to remind your Excellency, of what passed at Albany, between the Council, and the Commissioners of the several — Governments; whereby it will appear as we conceive, that there is no room for the Commissioners to — insinuate, that there is no room for the Commissioners to enforinate, that there was any Neglect in your — Excellency, or the Council that attended you.

On the third Instant by your Excellency's direction there was a meeting at your House in Albany, of the Council, and the Several Commissioners, when a draft of what your Excellency proposed to say to the Indians of the Six Nations, was laid before the Council, and the Commissioners of the Several provinces metal. Men- tioned read — The Commissioners were then desired, if they had any thing to propose, that they would — communicate it; as the design of that meeting was to concert measures, for promoting his Majesty's Interest, and securing his Subjects, in Regard to the Indians on the Continent. Some of the Council then proposed (as a Measure that might have a very good effect upon the Indians) that Smiths should be sent to reside in each of the Tribes of the Six Nations, at such places to mend their Guns — Hatchets &c; and that these Smiths should be — maintained and paid, at the joint charge of the — several Governments. To this some of the Commissio- ners answered, that as New York had the benefit of the Trade with these Indians, they ought to be at the whole Charge. Upon this Answer we beg

leave

Leave to observe to your Excellency, that the Expence to this promise upon this Interview only, amounts to eleven hundred and fifty pounds: Besides a constant annual Charge of upwards of five hundred pounds, for supplying the Garison at Oswego with provisions &c. and the constant charge of an Interpreter and —— Commissioners to correspond with the Indians. Whence we Conceive the Commissioners objection to that propo= sal was not well founded.

It was proposed by some of the Commissioners, that a clause should be inserted in your Excellency's Speech, to recommend and press it on the Six Nations of Indians, to receive Missionaries to be sent among them — This was objected to by the Council as an — Improper measure to be then taken: Not that the Council thought that the sending Missionaries to instruct the Indians, would be of no Service. On the contrary, the Council were and are fully persuaded that the sending and maintaining proper Mission= aries among them, will tend greatly to promote his Majesty's Interest; secure the Fidelity of the Indians, and defeat the artful Endeavours of the French Priests. But the Objection was grounded on this Reason. — That as no provision was made for sending —— Missionaries into the Indian Countries, nor any fund for their Maintainance and Support, when there had been proposed and pressed by your Excellency on the Indians, to receive Missionaries among them, and they had accepted of the proposal, and none had been immediately sent to reside among them (and we could not learn whence they should be sent, or how maintained) the consequence would have been as we apprehend

Apprehend, that the Six Nations would have been disgusted at the # disappointment, and the French would have made an immediate Advantage of it, in supplying them with Missionaries of their own, who by Artful Insinuations, would have wrought great prejudice to the British Interest. These Hints were offered to the Commissioners at that time, in discourse. They carried with them the Draft of your Excellency's Speech, to take Copies of it. They were desired to propose any Alterations they should think necessary, and to make any new proposals in Writing, which they conceived would promote the publick Service. And it was resolved by all, to meet in the same place next day, finally to act upon the Speech. The next day they met accordingly, when the Commissioners proposed no Alterations to the draft of the Speech, which was proceeded to and inserted: But nothing was mentioned of the former proposal, concerning Missionaries. So that the Council concluded, that they had dropt it, upon full Consideration of the weight of the Reasons, which had been offered the day before.

This is a plain Narrative of what passed at the two meetings. The Council therefore were not a little surprized to find that the Commissioners of the several Governments, after so many days silence, should deliver your Excellency their Letter at Noon, when they knew your Excellency could not have Leisure to give them a full answer, as you were then leaving Albany, and had been before invited on the Massachusets Commissioners, to go upon the Lown; When your Excellency only waited for the Six Nations, to give their Answer

to

the proposals of peace made by the Calawbas, and when it was well known (notwithstanding what the Commissioners are pleased to say to the Contrary in their Letter) that the six nations had agreed to the Peace with the Calawbas, and had waited some Hours only for pipes, and Feathers, (a Ceremony in use among the Indians) to return to the Calawbas as a Token of Peace and Amity.

We shall not make any Reflections on this Letter, nor charge the Commissioners with any Neglect; but the thing speak itself. Only we think ourselves obliged to observe to your Excellency, that as the Expence of maintaining the Indians, both at Albany, has wholly upon your Excellency, the Commissioners of the other Governments, refusing to Contribute any Share of that Expence. That the Indians continued there much longer, the Expence of Maintaining them, would have almost consumed the whole present, your Excellency was to make to them in behalf of this province. All which is humbly Submitted.

New York 10th July 1751.

By your Excellency's most obedient humble Servants
Cadwallader Colden
Ja: Alexander
James De Lancey
Ed. Holland.

I do hereby Certify the preceding Minutes and Letters to be true Copies of their respective Originals, the same having been Examined and Compared therewith by me and Containing forty three Pages.

New York 11th November 1751.

Geo. Banyar D.C.C.